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Thursday, January 22, 2009

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Vol 1 Issue 52

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Rick Johnson Declares for the Liberals

School Board Chair vows to "Champion Local Interests"

Musician, Volunteer, and Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) Chair Rick Johnson announced Monday he will be running for the Liberals in the upcoming Haliburton – Kawartha Lakes – Brock by-election. He will be taking on Conservative Leader John Tory, Green Party candidate Mike Schreiner, as well as representatives from the Reform Party of Ontario and New Democratic Party. The seat was vacated

two weeks ago with the resignation of sitting Conservative MLA Laurie Scott. Johnson ran against Ms. Scott in the last provincial election, losing by almost 10,000 votes.

This time around, however, Johnson will hope to capitalize on the fact that his chief opponent, John Tory, has never lived or worked in the riding, and has no plans to move here. "If elected, every pay cheque I earn will be deposited into a local bank account, and every penny will go to support myself and my family in this riding. The money will go to local grocery stores, local hardware stores, local hockey rinks, local charities, and of course local taxes. Every penny John Tory earns from the public will be straight back to Toronto," said Johnson. "It's a real insult to this riding for Tory to assume he's going to win in a cakewalk just because he has party leader status. We'll make the decisions here, in this riding, about who's going to represent us."



Webcasts Offline For Now

TLDSB Trustees Raise Concerns On Possible Closures of Remote Videoconferencing

Thanks to the Internet, people can be a part of an event or other gathering without leaving the comfort of their own home. Having this streaming Internet technology can help to bridge the gap between communities and create savings for costs associated with travelling.

The Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) is considering using this technology to broadcast regular meetings of their board of trustees. In a proposal put forth by Rick Johnson, Trustee Chairperson, at a meeting of the regular committee on Tuesday, Jan. 13 in Minden, it stated that webcasts would replace the videoconferencing method currently used at remote sites in Bracebridge and Minden. For some trustees, the thought of eliminating videoconferencing at these sites all together raised concerns.

According to Johnson's report, providing live webcasts will help to alleviate concerns about public access to board meetings at the non-host sites. As it currently stands, staff members are required to go to non-host sites to run videoconferencing equipment, regardless of whether or not members of the public attend. This is time consuming and costly to the board, Johnson's findings indicate. The TLDSB has been making videoconferencing available since 2004.

Webcasts would only apply to regular meetings of the board and not committee of the whole meetings. Both are usually held alternately on the second and fourth Tuesday of most months. Only regular board meetings would be broadcast because they are where decisions are made and ratified. Committee of the Whole meetings are also harder to broadcast via the web because quality of the production is poor due to there being three different meeting sites (Lindsay, Minden, Bracebridge). Also, trustees already attend these meetings by way of videoconference and they are able to participate in the areas they live.

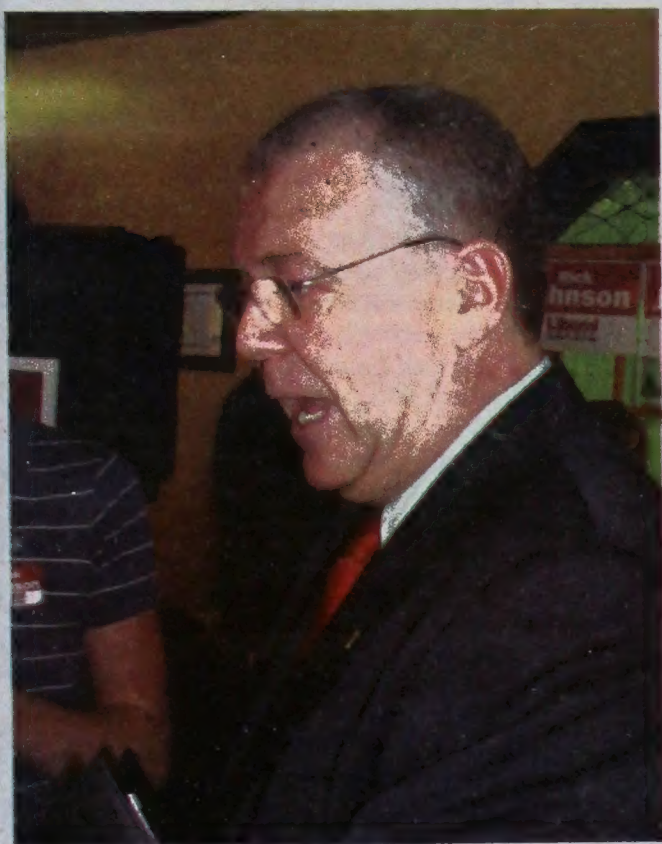
School Board cont'd... pg. 6

"Every time we put up a barrier to a communication channel in one way, even when we're providing additional means, we move ourselves farther away from the people we serve."

– Norah Fountain,
TLDSB Trustee

Mark Arike

Staff Reporter



Rick Johnson Cont'd... pg. 2

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Charges Laid in Two-Car Collision

Several pieces of mangled plastic and metal could be seen scattered on the ground near the intersection of Highland St. and Maple Ave. in Haliburton on the morning of Wednesday, Jan. 14, as a result of an early morning vehicle collision.

An investigation into the incident by officers with the Haliburton Highlands OPP Detachment revealed that a Chevrolet Tracker, driven by James Hutchings of Dysart et al, turned left in front of an older model Nissan pick-up truck, driven by Khristen Schultz of Highlands East, which was heading Eastbound on Highland St.

Mr. Hutchings was charged with Failing to Yield under the Highway Traffic Act. No injuries were sustained in the accident. ■



Rick Johnson Declares for the Liberals

... from pg. 1

Johnson also mentioned that he decided to run in the last provincial election because he was so outraged by the Conservative leader's campaign proposal to fund private, faith based schools. "That crazy idea would have taken hundreds of thousands of dollars out of our local public schools – and as School Board Chair I found it a very dangerous and divisive policy. And now the author of that policy has the nerve to come into our riding and say he can represent our best interests. What we need, and have needed since the Conservatives were defeated in 2003, is local representation on the government side of the Legislature so we can deliver much needed job programs and economic progress to this riding."

Earlier Greg Walling, a prominent local Liberal and former federal Liberal candidate, pointed out that this riding has benefited greatly over the years by having as its MLA prominent members of the governing party, citing former Liberal Cabinet Minister John Aitkens and Conservative Chris Hodgson as examples. "It's insulting to the history of this riding to think that a parachute candidate will be able to represent us as well as someone who's lived and worked and contributed so much locally as Rich Johnson has."

Rick Johnson and his wife Terri are professional musicians who toured nationally for many years as the Terri Crawford band. They've been in the business for over 30 years, with many successes and even Juno nominations in their resume. They moved to the riding in the late 1980s, to a farm near Pontypool where they've raised their two children, Trish and Michael. Rick Johnson has been a committed volunteer in the area for many years, and was first elected as a public school trustee for the TLDSB in 1997. He's been President of the Ontario Public School Boards Association, and is currently President of the Canadian School Boards Association, as well as acting as Chair of the TLDSB.

When asked if he expected Liberal Premier Dalton McGuinty to campaign on his behalf, Johnson admitted he didn't know those details as yet, but he certainly expects the Party to support his candidacy with enthusiasm. "We believe we can win this riding – particularly when our local Conservative MP has in reality abandoned it. This is going to be a real fight."

Johnson believes the issues are "jobs, jobs, and jobs" and vows, if elected, to use his position as a government back bench to insure his riding gets its fair share of federal and provincial infrastructure funds. He's also aware that the Conservatives will pull out all the stops in their effort to get their Leader a seat in the Legislature. The contrast between the Conservative announcement two weeks ago, with its 10 network cameras and some 30 press in attendance, and the Liberal's low key affair on Monday was startling. But elections are not won in press conferences, and the Liberals are planning a concerted attack on the ground in a effort to win the riding they've been shut out of, provincially, for almost 20 years. ■

H.C.D.C. seminar series

BASIC BOOKKEEPING - Dennis Casey

Wednesday February 11th, 2009 - 1:00pm to 4:00pm. Fleming College, Haliburton. Fee: \$20.

A 3 hr. overview for sole proprietors/partners covering Statement of Business Activity - Form T2124 & T2032, calculations for automobile & house expenses and capital cost allowance.

INCOME TAX PREPARATION FOR THE SELF-EMPLOYED - Jim Blake

Friday February 13th, 2009 - 9:00am to 12:00pm. Fleming College, Haliburton. Fee: \$10. + GST, Arts Council Members FREE. For anyone who is self-employed with specific information for artists.

MAKING DIGITAL IMAGES WORK FOR YOU - GETTING STARTED - Tammy Rea

Tuesday February 17th, 2009 - 9:00am to 12:00pm. Fleming College, Haliburton - Computer Lab. Fee: \$35. + GST, Arts Council Members \$20. + GST.

Learn how to use basic photo editing software, retrieve images from your camera, file formats, storage and preparing images for print documents and email. Students are required to supply their own images. Limited space.

BUSINESS PLANNING FOR WOMEN - Fay Martin

Thursday February 26th, 2009 - 9:00am to 12:00pm. Fleming College, Haliburton. Fee: \$20.

This workshop will validate the particular strengths and values that women bring to business by taking a holistic approach to the challenge of meeting financial targets while accommodating life circumstances.

GETTING MEDIA ATTENTION - David Israelson of Media Profile

Friday February 27th, 2009 - 9:00am to 12:00pm. Fleming College, Haliburton. Fee: \$35. + GST, Arts Council Members \$20. + GST.

David will walk you through the tools, techniques and trade secrets to get your story in the news. Workbook included.

QUICK BOOKS FOR YOUR BUSINESS - Robert Hall, CMA

Tuesday March 3rd, 2009 - 9:00am to 12:00pm - Fleming College, Haliburton. Fee: \$20.

A 3 hour overview of this popular accounting software program.

MANAGING FOR TOUGH TIMES - Lon Duncombe

Fleming College, Haliburton. Fee: \$30. each or 3 for \$75.

Monday March 9th, 2009 - 9:00am to 12:00pm - ANALYSING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Wednesday March 11th, 2009 - 9:00am to 12:00pm - PROFIT & LOSS VS. CASH FLOW

Thursday March 12th, 2009 - 9:00am to 12:00pm - MANAGING FOR CASH

This 3 part workshop will include Analyzing Financial Statements, Budgeting (profit vs. cash flow), Managing for Cash (what to chop, what to keep).

WORKING WITH DIGITAL IMAGES - INTERMEDIATE - Tammy Rea

Tuesday March 10th, 2009 - 9:00am to 12:00pm. Fleming College, Haliburton - Computer Lab. Fee: \$35. + GST, Arts Council Members \$20. + GST.

This workshop will cover putting digital images into Powerpoint presentations and web applications, using software for photo editing and more.

MARKETING DYNAMICS - Mike Jaycock

Tuesday March 31st, 2009 - 9:00am to 12:00pm - Haliburton Curling Club (Lower Level). Fee: \$30.

A "roll up your sleeves" seminar to provide you with a planning process that will work for your business communications.

Bring your along your "burning" communication issue for discussion.

WORKING WITH DIGITAL IMAGES - ADVANCE - Tammy Rea

Tuesday April 7th, 2009 - 9:00am to 12:00pm. Fleming College, Haliburton - Computer Lab. Fee: \$35. + GST, Arts Council Members \$20. + GST.

Learn how to create videos from still images, putting videos into Powerpoint presentations, creating streaming videos for websites and photo manipulation.

PST/GST - Reps. from Federal & Provincial Governments

Wednesday April 15th, 2009 - 6:00pm to 9:00pm - Haliburton Curling Club (Lower Level). Free

How to complete your forms, understand the differences between PST & GST, Clarify your responsibilities for collecting and remitting tax credits and overpayments, answer your questions.

CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE - Carey McMaster

Thursday April 30th, 2009 - 6:00pm to 9:00pm - Haliburton Curling Club (Lower Level). Fee: \$20.

The most important relationship your company has is the one between your customers and staff. Anything you can do to strengthen that relationship will benefit your business.

MANAGING YOUR STAFF AND/OR VOLUNTEERS - Fay Martin

Thursday May 7th, 2009 - 6:00pm to 9:00pm - Haliburton Curling Club (Lower Level). Fee: \$20.

This workshop will focus on clear communication as the basis of good work relationships. It will look at job descriptions, job interviews, job performance evaluations and feedback as a way of identifying and correcting employment problems.

MANAGING STRESS IN THE WORKPLACE - Dr. Jack Russel

Monday May 11th, 2009 - 6:00pm to 9:00pm - Haliburton Curling Club (Lower Level). Fee: \$20.

Managing personal stress will improve workplace performance. This workshop will focus on learning how to manage stress and develop strategies to overcome it.

OVERCOMING PROCRASTINATION - Dr. Jack Russel

Wednesday May 13th, 2009 - 6:00pm to 9:00pm - Haliburton Curling Club (Lower Level). Fee: \$20.

Identifying procrastination behaviors and developing strategies to implement better time management.

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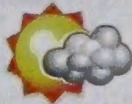
Beware Those Icy Roads!



It was a wintry couple of days in Haliburton County, and no more so than in the Kennis Lake area. The good news is that no one was hurt in this incident.. Icy roads were blamed.

Photo by Gloria Carnochan

THURSDAY



Becoming partly sunny

▲ -5° ▼ -11°

FRIDAY



Chance of snow showers and flurries

▲ -4° ▼ -9°

SATURDAY



Partly cloudy and colder

▲ -13° ▼ -17°

SUNDAY



Mostly cloudy with flurries

▲ -12° ▼ -20°

MONDAY



Chance of light snow

▲ -9° ▼ -17°

TUESDAY



Cold with a chance of light snow

▲ -13° ▼ -21°

WEDNESDAY



Cold with a chance of light snow

▲ -14° ▼ -23°

AROUND THE REGION: Seasonably cold temperatures will be experienced the next few days. Skies will become partly sunny on Thursday with highs in the single digits below zero. A few snow showers and flurries will be possible on Friday with highs remaining in the single digits below zero. Colder weather will be experienced this weekend with highs falling into the teens below zero.

Your Unofficial Lotto Numbers

LOTTO 649

Jan 17, 2009

08 12 20 28 39 47

Bonus Number 10

Encore 8891012

SUPER 7

Jan 16, 2009

09 11 15 16 31 39 47

Bonus Number 12

Encore 6828848

TROPICAL CITIES

City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Friday HI/Lo/Otk	Saturday HI/Lo/Otk	City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Friday HI/Lo/Otk	Saturday HI/Lo/Otk
Acapulco	29/21/pc	30/22/pc	29/23/pc	Montego Bay	21/21/pc	28/21/dz	21/23/sh
Antigua	30/24/sh	29/23/su	28/23/su	Nassau	23/16/sh	26/19/su	23/20/su
Barbados	30/24/ls	31/25/pc	29/26/pc	Port au Prince	28/21/ls	28/22/ls	28/24/ra
Bermuda	18/11/pc	18/12/pc	23/17/su	Puerto Vallarta	21/17/pc	28/17/pc	30/17/su
Cancun	25/17/pc	27/17/su	26/20/su	St Thomas	28/22/pc	28/23/pc	28/22/pc
Curacao	31/25/pc	32/26/pc	29/23/pc	St Maarten	29/22/su	28/23/sh	28/25/su
Georgetown	23/15/sh	26/16/su	24/19/su	San Jose, CR	26/18/ls	27/18/pc	28/19/cl
Havana	31/26/ls	31/24/ls	29/22/ls	San Juan	28/22/su	29/23/su	29/26/su
Key West	24/16/su	26/17/su	24/15/pc	San Salvador	30/21/su	31/17/su	32/19/su
Kingston	27/22/pc	28/22/sh	27/24/sh	Santo Domingo	28/22/ls	28/21/ls	30/22/su
				Trinidad	32/26/ls	32/26/pc	31/26/pc

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Friday HI/Lo/Otk	Saturday HI/Lo/Otk	Sunday HI/Lo/Otk	Monday HI/Lo/Otk	Tuesday HI/Lo/Otk	Wednesday HI/Lo/Otk
Bancroft	-6/-11/pc	-4/-9/sn	-13/-17/pc	-12/-20/cl	-9/-17/sn	-13/-21/sn	-14/-23/sn
Barrie	-4/-9/pc	-3/-9/sn	-13/-17/pc	-12/-19/cl	-9/-16/sn	-12/-19/sn	-13/-21/sn
Dorset	-6/-11/pc	-4/-9/sn	-13/-17/pc	-12/-20/cl	-10/-17/sn	-13/-21/sn	-14/-23/sn
Haliburton	-5/-11/pc	-4/-9/sn	-13/-17/pc	-12/-20/cl	-9/-17/sn	-13/-21/sn	-14/-24/sn
Huntsville	-6/-11/pc	-4/-9/sn	-13/-17/pc	-12/-20/cl	-10/-17/sn	-13/-21/sn	-14/-24/sn
Kingston	-3/-9/pc	-3/-8/sn	-12/-13/pc	-11/-18/cl	-8/-15/sn	-12/-18/sn	-12/-21/sn
Lindsay	-4/-11/pc	-4/-9/sn	-13/-17/pc	-12/-20/cl	-9/-17/sn	-13/-21/sn	-14/-23/sn
Minden	-5/-11/pc	-4/-9/sn	-13/-17/pc	-12/-20/cl	-9/-17/sn	-13/-21/sn	-14/-23/sn
Oshawa	-3/-9/pc	-2/-8/sn	-12/-13/pc	-10/-17/cl	-8/-14/sn	-11/-18/sn	-12/-19/sn
Ottawa	-6/-12/sf	-6/-12/sf	-14/-19/cl	-14/-23/pc	-12/-19/sf	-14/-23/sn	-14/-24/sn
Toronto	-2/-8/pc	-1/-7/sn	-11/-13/pc	-9/-17/cl	-8/-14/sn	-10/-18/sn	-11/-19/sn

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Friday HI/Lo/Otk	Saturday HI/Lo/Otk	Sunday HI/Lo/Otk	Monday HI/Lo/Otk	Tuesday HI/Lo/Otk	Wednesday HI/Lo/Otk
Calgary	-8/-17/pc	-10/-16/pc	-11/-19/sf	-9/-21/pc	-3/-15/pc	-2/-12/pc	-4/-10/sn
Edmonton	-13/-23/sf	-18/-23/pc	-12/-22/sf	-7/-19/pc	-11/-19/cl	-11/-19/cl	-12/-21/sn
Fredericton	-7/-16/sf	-8/-14/sf	-7/-13/sf	-13/-19/sf	-11/-23/su	-12/-23/su	-11/-22/su
Halifax	-3/-9/sf	-2/-7/cl	2/-2/pc	-13/-14/sf	-12/-17/sf	-9/-14/sn	-6/-12/sn
Montreal	-6/-14/sf	-7/-14/sf	-13/-14/sf	-15/-22/pc	-12/-20/sf	-14/-23/sn	-15/-22/sn
Regina	-7/-18/sn	-11/-26/su	-20/-26/pc	-21/-27/cl	-17/-27/cl	-6/-18/pc	-8/-16/sf
St. John's	-6/-12/sf	-8/-21/cl	0/-4/cl	1/-2/cl	-6/-8/cl	-17/-17/sn	0/-6/sn
Saskatoon	-8/-23/sf	-22/-28/su	-21/-25/su	-21/-26/cl	-17/-26/cl	-7/-22/cl	-9/-18/sf
Vancouver	8/2/cl	6/2/cl	6/2/ra	4/-1/pc	4/-2/su	7/0/sh	8/2/sh
Whitehorse	-14/-23/su	-15/-27/pc	-19/-26/su	-14/-24/sf	-13/-22/sf	-6/-15/sn	-7/-16/sn
Winnipeg	-11/-21/sf	-17/-26/pc	-21/-26/sf	-22/-29/cl	-22/-29/pc	-20/-27/pc	-17/-23/pc

AREA ALMANAC

Last seven days	High	Low	Prec.
Monday 1/19	-7°C	-11°C	0.0 mm
Sunday 1/18	-8°C	-12°C	0.0 mm
Saturday 1/17	-11°C	-24°C	0.0 mm
Friday 1/16	-16°C	-32°C	0.0 mm
Thursday 1/15	-16°C	-35°C	0.0 mm
Wednesday 1/14	-19°C	-33°C	0.0 mm
Tuesday 1/13	-1°C	-9°C	0.0 mm

Readings from Haliburton/Stanhope Airport
www.stanhopeairport.com

Forecasts, graphs and data provided by Weather Central, Inc., Madison, Wis. © 2009

SUN & MOON

	Sunrise/set	Moonrise/set
Thu. 7:44 a.m./5:08 p.m.	5:26 a.m./1:36 p.m.	
Fri. 7:43 a.m./5:09 p.m.	6:14 a.m./2:32 p.m.	
Sat. 7:42 a.m./5:11 p.m.	6:54 a.m./3:34 p.m.	
Sun. 7:41 a.m./5:12 p.m.	7:26 a.m./4:39 p.m.	
Mon. 7:40 a.m./5:14 p.m.	7:53 a.m./5:46 p.m.	
Tues. 7:39 a.m./5:15 p.m.	8:15 a.m./6:52 p.m.	
Wed. 7:38 a.m./5:17 p.m.	8:35 a.m./7:59 p.m.	

New	First	Full	Last
Jan. 26	Feb. 2	Feb. 9	Feb. 16

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3 bdrm, cottage on protected bay of Kennis Lk. Totally upgraded incl roof. Hardwood floors, pine & drywall make this a complete package to enjoy 4 SEASONS. Lg deck for entertaining and mature trees for those who want to escape the sun. Sand & deep water, Lg cedar docking system. 16x32 insulated gar. w/heated floors. \$399,000.00

Gloria Carnochan or Clady Meezel * 754-1932

LITTLE KENNIS LAKE - \$424,900



Prime well treed private waterfront lot on Little Kennis Lake w/ clean smooth rock & sand shoreline, deep clean water, expansive south 'sunshine' exp., superb yr rnd access & parking for 8 cars. Neat & clean 4 season cottage features cathedral ceilings, stunning floor to ceiling granite FP, 3 bdrms, nice decking & docking, plus much more.

Cathy Bain * 457-2414 ext 23

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Evaluation
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Lindsay

Lindsay Elder ** 286-1234

GRASS LAKE - \$350,000



Prime Haliburton Village direct waterfront home on prestigious 5 lake chain. Nice gently sloping lot with superb yr rnd municipal access off dead end rd - ample parking. Custom built brick 3 bd, 2 washroom home on a full, partially fin. bsmt & w/ an att. dble gar. connected by a breezeway.

Patti & Hal Johnson ** 236-1234 ex 238

RURAL RESIDENTIAL - \$169,900



Renovated 2+ bedroom home located on over 5 acres with total privacy. Above ground pool w/ wrap around decking. Recent renos - maple kitchen, ceramic tile, bathroom fixtures, main floor laundry, hardwood maple flooring, decking, airtight pellet stove and light fixtures. Full walkout basement with extra bedroom, storage and workshop.

Debbie Cumber * 457-2414 ext 24

IRONDALE RIVER - \$25,000



Nice building lot located on the Irondale River. Year round municipal access, subject to a Right Of Way. Nicely treed, good building site.

Susan Johnson * 286-1234

MISKWABI LAKE ACCESS - \$119,000



This cottage has been reduced \$20,000 & \$3,000 more invested for a quick sale, making it turn key & ready for you to move in & enjoy! 3 bdrm cottage w/ pine cathedral ceilings, safe & sound insulation in interior walls, drilled well & septic (2001 installed for a 4 bdrm in case of cottage expansion) plus much more.

Chris & Michelle Smelars * 457-2414

GULL RIVER - \$219,900



Nice solid brick home on prestigious Gull River / Shadow lake. Superb convenient location, nice setting with view and ambience of the waterfalls. Mature treed level lot, paved municipal access, 1 1/2 hour drive from GTA. Features updated eat-in kitchen, fireplace, sunroom, docking, main floor laundry plus loads more!

David Lee * 286-1234
www.haliburtonhighlands-realestate.ca

HORSESHOE LAKE - \$599,000



Immaculate 3 plus 2 bdrm Waterfront home or Cottage. Large rooms for entertaining with cathedral ceilings in living room, dining room and kitchen. Windows recently upgraded, and water filtration system. Lower level is a walkout with large, bright family room. This Home/Cottage is in move-in condition and ready for waterfront living.

Tom Gardner * 286-1234

KUSHOG LAKE - \$489,000



Well built 3 bdrm 2 bath home, w/ detached dble 24 x 24 gar., a heated 24 x 24 workshop, 24 x 16 carport and a 24 x 10 storage. 2400 sq ft of living space, floor to ceiling stone fireplace, large kitchen, immaculate throughout. Full basement with walk-out to lake. This home shows pride of ownership with many outstanding features.

Al Mayo * 286-1234

MINDEN IN-TOWN - \$149,000



Neat and tidy 3 bedroom bungalow, deck at side, level lot on a quiet residential street with access to Gull River nearby, providing miles of boating. Walk to shopping and down town. Private setting at back of lot. A must see!! Value Plus!!

Ed Gibbons * 286-1234

CRYSTAL LAKE - \$149,000



Renovate three bedroom cottage with deeded access to Crystal Lake. Features: drilled well, heated line, fully winterized, full basement, small barn for storage, dock space available. Great beach. Great for ATV or snowmobile. Large 2 acre lot.

Peter Franzen * 286-1234

Royal LePage

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County Voice



"Kev, contact ABC, CBC, NBC, CTV and CBS about the ABS recall on our SUV. Then, meet the CEO of the FBI in the VIP lounge of the DMV for a BLT. O.K.?"

Letter of the Week

Dear Editor:

"This response gained my respect and my future business."

Living in, or as in my case, visiting a small town and experiencing the true sense of community was my experience on Saturday evening. Almost 11 years ago I suffered a brain hemorrhage, at the age of 32, which at the time, caused me to lose my speech and use of my right arm. Thankfully with excellent medical attention and hard work, both returned to me, with no adverse or lingering affects. I however must take two medications a day to prevent any threat of reoccurrence.

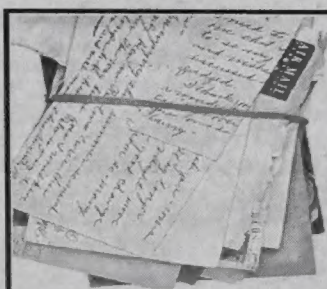
I visit Haliburton every Friday through Tuesday to work and see my boyfriend. I have a routine of packing my medications, however, this week I left my medications at home, which I didn't discover until Saturday, when I went to take my medications and found I had none. I had a commitment all day and at 5:00pm I thought I would have to make the trek home to retrieve my medication, but my boyfriend suggested trying to see if the local pharmacy might help me out.

I arrived at Aimee Mansfield's Shopper's Drug Mart around 5:20pm. The store was in darkness, having closed at 5:00pm but Aimee was outside locking up. I thought I'd take a chance and I asked if she might be able to help me, explaining that I had left my medication at home. She said "come on in - we'll have to call your regular pharmacy." After a quick phone call, and receiving a fax of my prescriptions Aimee quickly provided me with four days of medication and wished me a safe drive home.

I grew up in a small town of 600 and this response felt like it was one that I would have received from a store owner that I knew and who knew me, and it warmed my heart. This business may have the name of a pharmacy chain, but it has the heart of a small community that extends itself to meet the needs of a customer, who happened to be a stranger. I am certain the Haliburton community is well served by Aimee and the staff at Shopper's Drug Mart-Haliburton, based upon the customer service I received. This response gained my respect and my future business. Thank you Aimee, your service eased my concern for managing my health and didn't burden me with unexpected travel!

Jackie Brooks, Lindsay, ON.■

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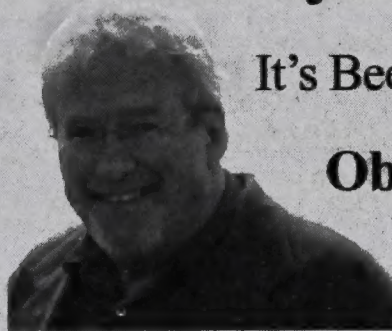
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Lower level of Stedman's Mall

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

by Stephen Patrick

It's Been a Long Time Coming

Obama's Inauguration Captures a World



Here at the County Voice we streamed CNN's broadcast of President-Elect Barack Obama's inauguration over our desk-top computers and for

in- at least some 45 minutes none of us could take our eyes off the screen. There was also an eerie silence on our usually busy phones: we had just two calls during the ceremony. There was some cheering, a few tears, and still, lingering, some sense of fear - fear of the knowledge that somewhere in that vast Washington throng there might be some lunatic still consumed with the madness of racial hate, and the means to do something about it.

That moment faded as Obama finished his stirring challenge to America and the world to put an end once and for all to the hatred of one kind for another: "This is the meaning of our liberty and our creed - why men and women and children of every race and every faith can join in celebration across this magnificent mall, and why a man whose father less than 60 years ago might not have been served at a local restaurant can now stand before you to take a most sacred oath."

And that edge of dread finally dissolved, for the moment, with the passionate benediction by long time civil rights activist Dr. Joseph E. Lowery, a founding member along with Martin Luther King of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. The President-Elect alternately swayed slightly and grinned broadly as Dr. Lowery hearkened back to the days of southern black gospel chants with his hope that "in the joy of a new beginning, we ask that you help to work for that day when black will not be asked to step back, when brown can stick around, when yellow will be mellow, when the red man can get ahead, man, and when white would embrace what is right, and all who would do justice and love mercy, say amen, say amen." Suddenly, it appeared that some kind of miracle had taken place as the crowd erupted in laughter and cheers. Every shot of the crowd showed just how far the co-mingling of race and creed has come in 21st century America. Whites, Blacks, Asians, Chinese, Latinos, Aborigines of all ages standing together listening, smiling, laughing, and yes, sometimes crying.

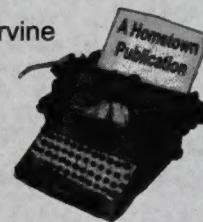
How fitting it was that these extraordinary events took place just a day after Martin Luther King Day, and just a few days after the anniversary of King's birth. For those of us for whom the civil rights movement of the 50s and 60s defined our youthful hope for a better world, the moment was almost transcendental. Immediately following the ceremony I had calls and emails from friends around the world rejoicing in the moment. And filled with hope that the United States would once again be a force for good in the world, and find again the energy and passion to re-invent itself.

So, chalk one up for the good guys, for the idealists and the dreamers. And for those who put their lives on the line way back when for the cause of racial justice. The road ahead for Obama and America will be filled with hope, and inevitably, with disappointment and disillusion. No one can come into office with such huge expectations and succeed on every level, on every issue. But for now, smiles, celebrations, and hope are the order of the day.■



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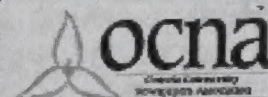
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More Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

"Ms Scott will receive over \$105,000 in severance pay for abandoning her electors..."

I am writing in response to Ms. Scott's decision to resign her seat in the legislature so that John Tory may run in the subsequent by-election and to statements both made concerning this development in recent articles in the Lindsay Post and County Voice.

The provincial election that Ms. Scott won was just 15 months ago. Has she achieved all that she was elected to do for this rural riding? That same election saw Mr. Tory rejected by the electors of his own Toronto home riding as the leader of his party. Does Mr. Tory, a Bay Street C.E.O. who is independently wealthy, really understand the needs of one of the poorest ridings in the province? In the Post, his example of government neglect in rural areas was to state "... where if you haven't had your butter tarts inspected by three people in your kitchen and given a clearance certificate you can't sell butter tarts in a farmers' market. ...". In fact, for better or worse, it was the current government that exempted farmers markets and the food sold in them from inspection and regulation under the Health Protection and Promotion Act. There is no regulatory oversight on farmers markets.

Ms. Scott quotes her mother as saying that this riding has been good to them for 47 years. Ms. Scott will receive over \$105,000 in severance pay for abandoning her electors so that Mr. Tory can have a chance of getting into the legislature to save his floundering position as leader of his party. Her reward is a high paying job doled out by Mr. Tory. That figure (severance pay) is just over 4 times the average income of a resident of Haliburton County. The by-election will cost Ontario taxpayers more than \$500,000. How does this serve the electors of HKLB that sent her to Queens Park to work on their behalf? Should she at least donate that severance pay to a local charity in Haliburton or elsewhere in the riding? We can all agree with Laurie's mother.

Ms. Scott said in her statement clearly that she was putting the needs of her party (more precisely, Mr. Tory) first. That would be before the needs of her constituents. Mr. Tory even questioned her abilities in the article by stating in response to a question on what he would do to get jobs to the area, he would continue Scott's work, but speak more frequently and more forcefully. Wow! That's gratitude, if not logic.

While we can understand Mr. Tory's need to get a seat in the legislature to save his job as leader of his party because even many of his party members are very unhappy with his performance, it is difficult to understand the justification of it being done this way at the expense of the electors here. One thing I bet is a sure thing - Mr. Tory will not run a second time here no matter what the outcome because he has no interest in this riding beyond getting a seat in the legislature. What remains to be seen is whether Ms. Scott will look to the electors here at the next general election to continue being good to the Scott's for another four years.

Sincerely,
Brad Colpitts
VP. HKLB Federal Liberal EDA

**Say You Saw It
In The Voice**

Dear Editor:

"No part of the core right-of-way has been affected."

On behalf of the Haliburton County Rail Trail Management Committee we are writing in response to the letter to the editor published in the December 11, 2008 issue of the County Voice entitled "I know this land well and I don't know where they could possibly redirect the trail."

In regards to the most recent sale of land adjacent to the Rail Trail, the committee has confirmed that "No part of the core right-of-way has been affected. The Rail Trail remains open".

Sincerely

Tegan Moratz, Administrative Coordinator,
Haliburton Highlands Trails and Tours Network. ■

Dear Editor:

"Who do we contact with problems?"

Laurie Scott has resigned from the Ontario Legislature in order to allow a by-election to be held in this riding to give John Tory a chance to be elected. Laurie is well liked and respected and was elected to represent the people of Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock. The people of this riding will now be without a representative in the Ontario Legislature for possibly six months. Who do we contact with problems?

John Tory, who wants to give public funding to private (faith based) schools, is unknown and has stated that he will not reside in the area. Can he really represent a rural area?

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Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

On Jan. 26, 1838, the first Prohibition law in U.S. history is passed in Tennessee, making it a misdemeanor to sell alcoholic beverages in taverns and stores. Despite an often-vigorous effort, the federal government failed to prevent the large-scale distribution of alcoholic beverages, and organized crime flourished.

On Jan. 27, 1918, the first Tarzan film, "Tarzan of the Apes," is released. The silent movie, based on Edgar Rice Burroughs' novel, was the first in a long line of Tarzan productions. Olympic champion swimmer Johnny Weissmuller starred in 11 Tarzan movies from 1932 to 1948.

On Jan. 28, 1959, the Green Bay Packers of the National Football League sign Vince Lombardi to a five-year contract as the team's coach and general manager. In his first season, Lombardi guided the Packers to a 7-5 record and a third-place finish in the NFL's Western Conference.

On Jan. 29, 1980, the U.S. Postal Service issues a stamp honoring comedian W.C. Fields. On screen, Fields was a misanthrope who hated children and animals and fought bankers, landladies and the police. Friends reported that his stage presence reflected Fields' true personality.

On Jan. 30, 1972, in Londonderry, Northern Ireland, 13 unarmed civil-rights demonstrators are shot dead by British army paratroopers in an event that becomes known as "Bloody Sunday." In April 1972, the British government released a report exonerating British troops from any illegal actions during the protest.

On Jan. 31, 1990, the Soviet Union's first McDonald's fast-food restaurant opens in Moscow. Throngs of people lined up to pay the equivalent of several days' wages for Big Macs, shakes and french fries.

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Former President George W. Bush in a video tele-conference.

Board Video Streaming

... from pg. 1

"While remote sites in Bracebridge and Minden would not be open to the public for regular meetings of the board anymore, a communications plan would be developed to ensure that all of our stakeholders are aware of our webcast opportunities," explained Johnson. "Right now, we're only making our board meetings to those who can physically attend those other two sites (Bracebridge and Minden). This would open it up to anyone who has a computer or access to a public library to go in and check it out." For access and accountability, Johnson believes this change would be for the better.

Back in October, Communications Officer Jean Pengelly, with assistance from Peter Warren, Virtual Learning Principal, and technician Bryce Huskison, set up webcast tests of the October, November and December 2008 Board and Committee of the Whole meetings. Samples of these meetings were sent to trustees.

"The most recent webcast meeting we saw was from December and it came out looking pretty good," said Johnson.

Through the live webcasts, TLDSB staff, media and the general public would have access to the meetings at the TLDSB website. Replays of meetings would be available for three months after the live meeting concludes.

Currently with regular board meetings, members of the public are able to attend, but are prohibited from giving any input. It is only at Committee of the Whole meetings when they can have their say.

Adjustments to the board's Procedural Bylaw 5 would also have to be made to go through with the proposed recommendation.

Norah Fountain, Trustee for Gravenhurst, Muskoka Lakes, Georgian Bay, felt that proceeding with the recommendation prior to consulting with others would prove to be a mistake. Fountain said she's supportive of webcast technology, but at the same time, is against the closure of remote sites.

"While we should definitely move ahead with this, it's something that works best in the urban areas of our board," explained Fountain. By urban areas, Fountain means places such as Bracebridge, Lindsay, Huntsville and Gravenhurst. "These are areas with DSL (Digital Subscriber Line) and high bandwidth. Right now, we still have up to 12,000 people in Muskoka alone who are limited to dial-up according to Muskoka Community Network (MCN)." MCN is a not-for-profit organization that facilitates the implementation of telecommunications solutions for the regions of Muskoka and Almaguin.

Though Fountain says she has high speed at her home, the connection still isn't quick enough to view video in real-time.

"I have high speed, but it's at the low end," she said. "That's why I can't stream this video in real-time. If I can get it to download later, then I could watch it."

Fountain raised questions about a section in Johnson's report

that stated that operating videoconferencing sites is time consuming for staff and costly to the board.

"I would like to understand the cost rationale and understand the correct costs that are affecting this," she said.

Johnson answered by saying that the cost of videoconferencing isn't just in dollars; it's more about the toll staff pay when they give up their personal time.

"Staff often have to travel a far distance to sights on our board meeting nights. Many of them have families and they put in long days already. I just think that having to sit there if nobody is there is an inconvenience to our staff beyond the cost factor," he said.

Johnson explained that few people show up to remote sights to see the meetings. Those who do are mainly members of the media.

"I believe that by expanding to webcasting, we are actually making this available to anyone in the world potentially, as opposed to only reaching those who can attend at remote sites," he added.

Bob Kaye, Superintendent of Business, elaborated on the facts associated with the costs of videoconferencing.

"In most cases, staff would be compensated with time in lieu of for the

time that they are required to attend a meeting," said Kaye. "As Rick had mentioned, it's the cost to reassign that staff and the lost time that they would have from their regular duties in taking that time in lieu of that is significant."

Though Kaye said that the cost to run one videoconference site for a meeting is "minimal", he didn't go into dollar amounts.

Fountain spoke out against the proposed recommendation, stating that deciding to close remote sites would essentially mean taking a step back. She passionately provided reasons for why she feels this way.

"At amalgamation it was considered an essential support to ensure everyone across our board could have a voice no matter what their location," said Fountain.

She added that considerable money was spent to install these facilities and that holding meetings through videoconference sets a good example to students.

"Students may more and more depend on videoconferencing and SMART boards (interactive whiteboards) as courses are combined due to declining enrolment."

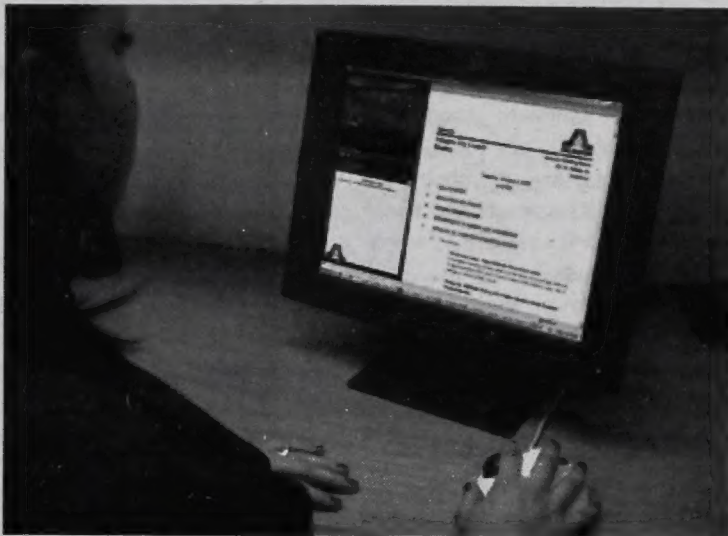
By this, she means that a student located in one town could listen and respond to a teacher giving a lesson somewhere else. In Fountain's opinion, webcasts are just one way of communicating and they shouldn't be the only way for the TLDSB.

"Every time we put up a barrier to a communication channel in one way, even when we're providing additional means, we move ourselves farther away from the people we serve. We marginalize them and we move away from our board agreement to community engagement," she said.

Elaine Beatty, Trustee for Bracebridge, suggested that the motion be deferred until more feedback on webcasting is gathered from stakeholders.

"I think it would be best to differ this motion until we complete a study with the public or perhaps even a study with our school council chairs and the media," she explained. "I think we should get some public input before we forever change this bylaw."

As a result of further trustee discussions the board decided to differ the motion until May in order to receive input on the matter from media, school councils and the District School Council/Parent Involvement Committee. ■



A woman watches a live webcast on her computer.

ISAAC ASIMOV'S SUPER QUIZ

Take this Isaac Asimov's Super Quiz to a Ph.D. Score 1 point for each correct answer on the Freshman Level, 2 points on the Graduate Level and 3 points on the Ph.D. Level.

Subject: DIAMOND
(e.g., What popular sport is played on a "diamond"?
Answer: Baseball.)

FRESHMAN LEVEL

1. His hits include "Sweet Caroline" and "Song Sung Blue."
Answer _____

2. In poker, who is the "Man with the ax"?
Answer _____

3. This 2006 film stars Leonardo DiCaprio as Danny Archer.
Answer _____

4. By what name is James Buchanan Brady better known?
Answer _____

5. What kind of rattlesnake has distinctive diamond-shaped markings?
Answer _____

GRADUATE LEVEL

6. This volcanic crater is on the island of Oahu.
Answer _____

7. Pink Floyd song title: "Shine on you
Answer _____

8. Line from "Little Things Mean a Lot": "You don't have to buy me
Answer _____

9. This supposedly cursed diamond is in the Smithsonian Institution.
Answer _____

10. What famous diamond mining company was formed by Cecil Rhodes?
Answer _____

Answer _____

PH.D. LEVEL

11. What kind of "diamonds" are used to mark very advanced ski trails?
Answer _____

12. What was the name of the largest rough gem-quality diamond ever found?
Answer _____

13. What is the diamond card in a pinochle?
Answer _____

14. Where would you find a diamond-shaped fontanel?
Answer _____

15. Playwright Mae West wrote a play about this racy woman.
Answer _____

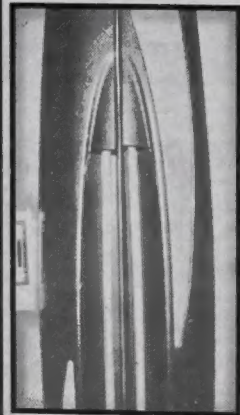
ANSWERS: 1. Neil Diamond. 2. King of Diamonds. 3. "Blood Diamond." 4. Diamond Jim Brady. 5. Diamondback. 6. Diamond Head. 7. Crazy Diamond. 8. Diamonds and pearls. 9. Hope Diamond. 10. De Beers Mining Company. 11. Double black diamond. 12. Cullinan Diamond. 13. Jack of diamonds. 14. A newborn's skull (soft spot). 15. Diamond Lil.

SCORING:

24 to 30 points — congratulations, doctor; 18 to 23 points — honors graduate; 13 to 17 points — you're plenty smart, but no grind; 5 to 12 points — you really should hit the books harder; 1 point to 4 points — enroll in remedial courses immediately; 0 points — who reads the questions to you?

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“This is a realistic and very workable project.”

Liz Danielsen
Staff Reporter

Last week the Haliburton County Snowmobile Association (HCSA) made a pitch to the Minden Hills Council aimed at repairing what some feel is the erosion of Minden's historic reputation as a snowmobiling destination. Mark Lester, Paul Prentice and Andy Chvedukus proposed the placement of a removable snowmobile bridge across the Gull River. Council was very supportive of the idea and, subject to further investigation and funding, they even envisioned the bridge being in place by next winter.

The removable bridge would be a winter season only, removable, dual-duty structure which would span about 125 feet across the Gull River and be located right at the current town boat launch off Anson Street (behind the Grill on the Gull Restaurant). The duality of the project is that in this location, the bridge is versatile enough to be swung sideways to form a functional boat dock, providing ready access to downtown during both the snowmobile and boating seasons.

Lester, who lives on South Lake and has been an active member of the HCSA, was the point man during the presentation. He spoke of his passion for the sport of snowmobiling and how development in the downtown core was eroding snowmobilers' ability to navigate through Minden. He talked about HCSA's commitment to tourism and ensuring that places like Minden remain a destination for snowmobile enthusiasts, and how improvement to the trails and access points to food, fuel and accommodation were crucial to keeping Minden on the map.

According to Lester, support from the Council is pivotal at this point in establishing the bridge and he asked for Council's agreement in principle for the project before a group of volunteers commit themselves to moving it forward.

Lester spoke of the success of similar bridges in both Bracebridge and Port Carling. The bridge in Bracebridge has been in place for 17 years and has been turned for use as a dock each year. The bridge in Port Carling, also 125' long, was installed last year and is now in use. In both cases the bridges are owned and ensured by the Municipality.

Based on the cost in Port Carling, Lester estimated the cost of the project at \$125,000 for a fully assembled and installed floating bridge made from aluminum tubes, decked, railed and properly secured; fully capable of use as a boat dock in the area.

He also said that there was optimism among the HCSA members that a less costly option, in the form of

a modular air-filled, plastic interlocking floating dock system as a potential foundation for a made-for-Minden bridge, but added that this option would be subject to engineering approval.

Prentice said, “This is a credible and safe, long term solution for snowmobilers and community docking. It would go a long way towards redeeming Minden's reputation as a snowmobile destination with no need for machines to be on the main street at all.” Lester spoke about the bridge becoming a recognized attraction to snowmobilers saying that riders would come from far and wide to have the opportunity to ride the bridge.

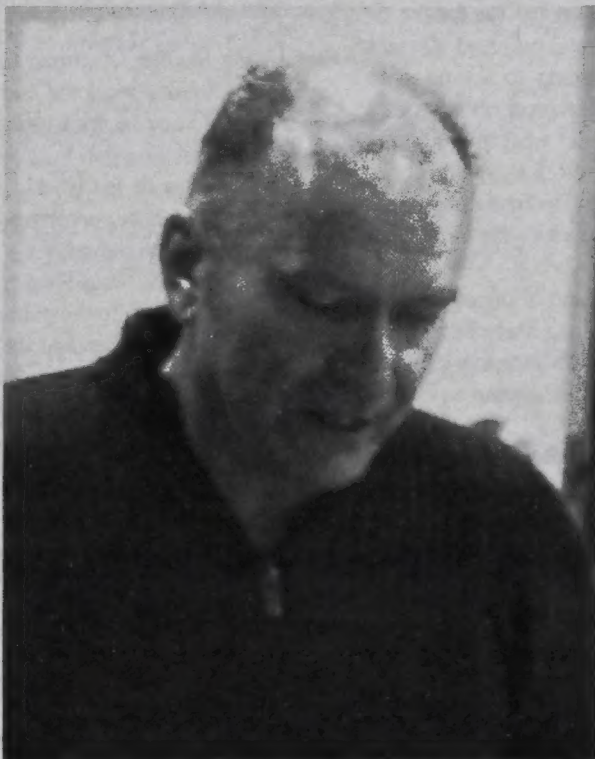
According to Lester, the OPP recently launched their annual Snowmobile Safety Week campaign during a high profile press conference held right at the floating bridge on the Muskoka River in Bracebridge. He said that, even after 17 years, the bridge continued to be a ‘must ride’ attraction for visitors to the area.

In response to a question from Reeve Jim McMahon about it being either a joint venture or whether they expected Minden to front the costs, Chvedukus said, pending consultation with other directors of his association, the HCSA would apply to the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs for funding for the project.

Deputy Reeve Cheryl Murdoch said she thought the bridge was a viable solution to the lack of access for snow machines into the community, and the only one before Council. She said, “I'd like to see this get underway.”

A number of questions about design and concern about water levels, as well as concern over the long term impact of maintenance costs were discussed and Council finally asked staff to investigate the proposal further.

At the end of the discussion, McMahon said, “This is a realistic and very workable project.” He thanked the delegation and advised them that the Municipality would investigate the project further.



Mark Lester talks to the Minden Hills Council about the importance of a bridge across the Gull River for snow machines and how it will help to revive the community's reputation as a destination point for snowmobilers

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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3	4		2				5	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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New to the County!

Skyline Bonspiel Celebrates Fifty – Annual Event a Huge Success

Wayne Warren's Whitby Foursome Wins Haliburton Lumber trophy

Terrance Gavan

Sports Editor

Cries of "Hurry Hard!" and "Whoa, No, Never!" could be heard emanating from the vicinity of the Haliburton Curling Club all the way to the Municipal Docks last weekend as 32 foursomes competed for steaks, roasts, [prizes traditionally take the form of red meat at the Skyline Bonspiel] trophies and bragging rights at the 50th Annual Skyline Bonspiel.

Teams representing the GTA, Whitby, Markham and Oshawa areas, speckled liberally with several local foursomes attended the popular bonspiel that ran from Friday to Sunday last weekend.

Three Haliburton teams led by skips Peter Byer, Dave Gray and Don Wetmore all advanced to the final draws on Sunday at 2 pm. Wayne Shea's Bobcaygeon rink advanced to the C-Side final.

Wayne Warren's Whitby foursome captured the coveted Haliburton Lumber trophy, defeating Bill McKay's Toronto team in a very exciting A-Side final. The final was decided in the final end when Warren went up two going home in the exciting eight end.

Byer dropped a tough decision to Markham's Brian MacFarlane in the B-Side final.

Shea upended Bob Hemming's Whitby foursome in the C-Side draw.

The D-Side final was the draw that most of the die-hard fans stayed to watch though. Gray's game team beat Wetmore's foursome in a closely contested final winning the Dawson Insurance Trophy and the D-Side prize. Trophies and the BBQ fare are nice, but there are more important things at stake here. (Pardon the pun)

And what's more important than the trophy and the prizes? Well, bragging rights of course. Trophies sit in the case. The roasts and the steaks will last a month.

But the bragging rights?

Ah, those coveted bragging rights last a full year. Right up to the next Skyline Spiel, in January 2010.

To paraphrase a popular credit card ad. "Bragging rights? Priceless!"

Event chairman Wayne Hussey, who for 15 years has pinned his hefty imprimatur on the popular spiel should be proud.

Because the hallmark of any successful spiel is timing. And here it was Sunday afternoon. The gallery was full to bursting. And lo' all eight teams were down on the ice for the final draws bang on time at 2 pm. And all eight teams were done, according to a time-worn 50-year-old script, bang on precisely at 4 pm.

Non-curlers may wonder what this is about.

Trust me, not all bonspiels are this spot on. I attended a bonspiel at a curling club in Winnipeg in 1991. The final draws were slated for 2 pm at the Valour Road Curling club. The final went down at midnight.

So kudos to Hussey and his very able band of organizers that this year included Peter Byer, Mo Welch and Dave Moss. The mark of a good spiel stands first on the smooth transition between events and goes next to the number of smiles extant as curlers leave the ice.

Hussey and crew scored big on both measures. Every curler coming off the ice had some great things to say about the event. They loved the commemorative pictures they received as part of the 50th anniversary celebration.

And most important, all of the curlers said they'd be back here in Haliburton next year. Which is perhaps the best compliment to the organizing committee and the stoic and leg-

endary history of the friendly Skyline spiel.

Warren's A-side winning rink included third Ray Balachorek, second Larry DeBrouwer and lead Brian Robinson.

Macfarlane was aided and abetted in his B-Side win by third Rick Vardzel, second Brian Slatter and lead John Ambrose.

The Bobcaygeon C-Side winners featured Shea as skip, Dave Lindsay at third, Jeff Marshall at lead and Jeff Heath throwing second.

And of course the sentimental favorites in the D-Side flight were led by skip Gray and included Haliburton stalwarts Arthur Dawson at third, Jim Bradley throwing second and Geoff Ainsley at lead.

Extra Ends: Skyline Chairman Hussey said that as part of the family day holiday weekend and the Frost Festival slated for February 14, 15 and 16, the Curling Club will be offering a number of events. A bonspiel is scheduled for Saturday, February 14th, but the rest of the weekend will be donated to aspiring curlers, newcomers or people who just want to get reacquainted with the game. "On Saturday we'll be hosting the Tournament of Hearts Bonspiel," said Hussey. "On Sunday [Feb 15th] the building will be open to the public and we'll have members on hand to explain the rules and we invite everyone to come out and throw some rocks and try some sweeping," said Hussey.

It will all be pretty informal and more importantly, said Hussey, it's all free of charge. So borrow a slider and join in the fun at the Haliburton Curling Club during the Frost Festival festivities February 14-16. ■



A-Side Winners (Skyline Bonspiel Champions) (l-r) Ray Balachorek (third), Larry DeBrouwer (second), Wayne Warren (skip), Brian Robinson (lead)



B-Side Winners (l-r) Rick Vardzel (third), Brian Macfarlane (skip), Brian Slatter (second), John Ambrose (lead)



D-Side Winners (l-r) Jim Bradley (second), Arthur Dawson (third), Geoff Ainsley (lead), Dave Gray (skip)

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Highlands East Still Waiting for New Fire Trucks

Liz Danielsen

Staff Reporter

"You could have walked from Texas in the time it has taken them." (Suzanne Partridge)

The Highlands East Fire Department had hoped to have a better complement of equipment by the end of the year but they're still waiting for two very important pieces of equipment. Early last year the Municipality ordered two new pumpers and two new tankers from Asphodel Fire Trucks Ltd. And, while the tankers are in Highlands East, the pumpers have still not arrived. The company has been trying to put the Municipality off since October, with ongoing promises of delivery and Council has decided they want action.

Fire Chief Bill Wingrove told Council that the company is now in default of their agreement. The trucks, which were ordered in February, should have been delivered no later than December. Deputy Reeve Jim Mackie voiced concern about the delay. He said, "Now we're getting 2007 trucks in 2009 and soon the 2010 vehicles will be available. If they're not here by January 27th, we should be looking at getting something to make do and pursuing 2010 vehicles. Highlands East has held up their end of the bargain and it's time for them to either sh*& or get off the pot."

Wingrove later confirmed that only the chassis were from 2007 and that the trucks themselves would be rated as 2009 vehicles. He also said the rules on emissions had recently changed. "There is an additional \$30,000 for emission control on diesel trucks. By purchasing 2007 chassis the price was sufficiently reduced to allow the department to outfit the trucks with the money saved. "We're simply trying to get the most out of the money we had allotted."

Wingrove did say that if Asphodel can't provide a satisfactory explanation, he is prepared to change suppliers. (He later said, "The last thing we want to do is rush someone when they're building a fire truck." But, almost at the point of feeling that enough is enough, Wingrove also said he was off to see the suppliers this week.)

Council discussed this briefly, but finally agreed that a company representative should be asked to come to their next meeting (January 27th) to explain the delay, if the Municipality has not received delivery by that time. According to Wingrove the trucks are ready, but the pumps are still on back order from Texas. Councillor Suzanne Partridge said, "You could have walked from Texas in the time it has taken them," and Council agreed.

In his report to Council Wingrove said it had been very busy last year, with 238 call outs throughout the year, representing a 16% increase in activity for the Department. Highlands East is looking for a new company to provide dispatch services. According to Wingrove, he has done a bit of a feasibility study to determine who they will be able to work with, without having to invest too much in additional equipment.

Council will be reviewing one proposal by Peerless Fire Dispatch at a meeting in February. Wingrove says that the company has an excellent reputation and that they have been offering dispatch services to Algonquin Highlands for some time. Wingrove paid a visit to their company and he was quite impressed. He said that their price is almost half of what the municipality is paying now. (The existing company out of Belleville specializes in alarm and paging systems, and having only five fire departments. They decided to cancel those contracts.)

The Department has also put out a call for proposals to develop a Master Fire Plan. Several companies had submitted proposals but withdrew them. However, Council did receive a proposal from Peter Corfield & Associates to prepare the master plan. Despite Deputy Reeve Mackie's concern that, even though the company was very capable, they may be geared more towards urban areas, Council passed a resolution accepting the proposal for a total cost of \$11,000.

Wingrove then advised Council that the Department had received an application from Emily Mackie, who just turned 19, to join the volunteers. Tongue in cheek he said that it would be good to see someone under the age of 50 joining. He said that

when the volunteers were wrapping up after their last fire, he was hard pressed to find someone with the energy to wind up the hoses.

In fact, the department does have some young members. Al-iceson Dooley, who is also 19, recently joined the Department and according to Wingrove, she's working out very well. Council was pleased to accept Mackie's application to join Station 1, as a welcome breath of fresh air and energy to the core group of volunteers.

When asked later about the need for volunteers, Wingrove confirmed that the Fire Department is short members at all stations. "The average complement is between 20 and 25 per hall and we're averaging from 10 to 15 members. We can cover everything, but it means more work

for everyone. A few of our members are getting ready to retire making the need for volunteers just that much more important," he said.

Given the extreme temperatures we've been experiencing, Wingrove asked the Voice to remind residents to make sure their smoke alarms are working. He also said that it was particularly important for anyone with a wood or propane burning stove to have a carbon monoxide detector.

Other reminders included making sure that electric heaters are not plugged into a single extension cord as there is a risk of overloading the extension cord and it catching fire. Lastly, keep a close eye on your chimney as during cold snaps more frequent use of your wood stove will create more creosote. ■

"We're simply trying to get the most out of the money we had allotted." (Bill Wingrove)

New Code of Conduct for Highlands East CBO

Liz Danielsen

Staff Reporter

"The Building Code allows officials to find acceptable solutions." (Jack Girouard)

The development season was frustrating for a lot of people in Highlands East last year, with a number of disputes between contractors and Council over the handling of permits by their Chief Building Official (CBO). Council's decision to hire another inspector resulted in an uneasy truce at year end, but they have taken another step toward improving the process as things move forward this year.

After listening to a presentation by Jack Girouard from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's Building Department, Council adopted a new Code of Conduct for their Chief Building Official and Inspectors.

Girouard provided Council with an overview of the Building Code and the Municipality's responsibilities. The Building Code Act (1992) is the legislative framework governing construction, renovations and changes in use of buildings, but it also sets out administrative and technical requirements. According to Girouard, the Ministry will offer support to building officials, but responsibility for enforcement lies primarily in the hands of the municipalities.

Girouard said that Ontario's Building Code has been drafted in an 'objective-based' format, that while consistent with the National Building Code, contains specific technical requirements that may be prescriptive or performance based. "It allows officials to find acceptable solutions." He also said that the province continues to play a number of roles which include code interpretations by the Building Code Commission.

"For a building official, things are fairly black and white, but informally a CBO can ask for a Branch opinion. However, there are some grey areas for the Commission and they can make determinations in a number of areas," Girouard said. He gave as examples whether time lines for issuing permits or doing inspections are appropriate.

Girouard advised Council that they have a legal responsibility for enforcing the Building Code at the local level, through the appointment of qualified building officials or inspectors and by establishing (and enforcing) a code of conduct for these individuals. This code of conduct is intended to promote appropriate standards of behaviour, including honesty and integrity during the exercise of their powers. Girouard also said, "It must also outline how complaints about staff are dealt with," adding that while complaints are often valid, sometimes they are not.

According to Girouard, Municipalities have a bit of flexibility when enforcing the Act and the Building Code. He said that Municipal by-laws should be written in a somewhat permissive manner. As an example he said that municipal by-laws could allow for such things as the refund of fees under some circumstances.

"Administration will vary from municipality to municipality. You must be realistic to the needs of each municipality and its means," said Girouard. He reiterated that any CBO's enforcement responsibilities should always be driven by the code of conduct policy.

Girouard said that the CBO is responsible to enforce the Act and the Building Code and ensure that the appropriate time lines are followed. At the same time, they must provide applicants with reasons for refusals, not deny something just because it is the 'flavour of the day' and they must always take care to ensure there is no unethical use or abuse of their powers.

Girouard also said that the Act empowers each CBO to authorize the use of materials, systems and designs that are not approved in the code by finding alternative solutions. He said "There is a process to evaluate alternative solutions, but there should also be a fee for this included in your by-law as it requires additional effort." He also told Council that their policies or by-laws should clearly outline when the CBO can enter buildings, make out an order to comply or issue stop work orders.

"Things like construction without a permit should be considered; how to get someone to comply with your by-laws without actually stopping the process would be the goal," he said. "Conditions outlined in the role of a CBO shouldn't be exhaustive. They should also be allowed to exercise some judgement in their use of powers."

Girouard said that disputes arising between any party and the CBO, other than matters involving the Code of Conduct, are not arbitrated or dealt with by Council, but are handled by the Minister, the Building Code Commission or, if a person still feels aggrieved, by the Ontario Superior Court of Justice.

Reeve Dave Burton said later that Highlands East would be making arrangements for a meeting between local contractors, their CBO and Building Inspector as well as Girouard. Burton said, "I want to ensure that we're all going in the same direction and lay the groundwork for the spring construction season." ■

Check Out the
weekly weather
report on
page 3



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Hit-and-Run Rattles Local Woman

OPP Asking Public for Information On Crash at Independent Gas Bar

"I have never been in an accident – it was terrifying." – Leslie Burke

Mark Arike

Staff Reporter

On Friday afternoon, Leslie Burke's 18-year old daughter was in the process of having her wisdom teeth removed. Following the surgery, Burke had promised her daughter that she would be there after the general anaesthesia wore off. However, an unpleasant incident at the Independent Gas Bar in Haliburton would change those plans.

Burke was heading off the property in her Chevrolet Optra after shopping for a few items at Todd's Independent Grocer at around 3 p.m. when she was struck by another vehicle near the entrance to the Independent Gas Bar.

"I have never been in an accident – it was terrifying," said Burke on Monday morning in a phone interview with The Voice. Burke explained that she was heading down the driveway towards Cty Rd# 21 when the other vehicle, described as a full-size light blue or grey sedan, came into her path. The license plate could have the number eight in it.

"I saw him and honked because he kept coming," explained Burke, a 34-year old West Guilford resident. "He took the corner real sharp when he was turning left and hit the front driver's side of my car. The police told me that he hit me hard enough to move my car back about two-feet."

The airbags in Burke's car deployed from the impact and significant front-end damage was sustained. Visibly shaken, she exited her car and confronted the older man who rammed into her.

"I asked him, 'how did you not see me?' and the only thing he said back was, 'I think we hit each other.'"

Burke admits that she did yell at the man in the heat of the moment before heading in to the gas bar to call police and seek assistance for her injuries.

Gas Bar attendant Carolyn McArthur was working that afternoon and remembers how shook-up Burke was when she came through the door.

"She was hysterical," said McArthur. "I brought her to the back and tried to calm her down. I saw that she had cuts on her wrist and marks on her face."

During this time, the male driver of the vehicle, described as being around 70 years old, got in his vehicle and fled from the scene.

Burke said that she was more worried about not making it to the dentist's office to see her daughter than she was about her own welfare. But Burke couldn't make it; instead she was taken to the Haliburton Hospital in an ambulance for treatment of her non-life threatening injuries.

The suspect involved didn't appear to be under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol, said Burke. "I think I might have scared him and that's why he took off."

No witnesses came forward after the accident happened and the four cameras located by the gas pumps didn't pick anything up.

Burke had recently purchased the white Optra that she was driving from Curry Motors. She says that the vehicle will most likely be considered a write-off due to the deployment of the airbags.

Anyone with information on the hit-and-run incident is asked to call the OPP Communications Centre at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS ■



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Watercolours Debate Continues

Liz Danielsen

Staff Reporter

In the midst of all the debate about the proposed Watercolours condominium development in Dysart, Haliburton Condo Concern (HCC) is trying an innovative approach to resolving outstanding issues. With the Ontario Municipal Board hearing resuming in just a few weeks, the group is offering a draft alternate by-law for all concerned parties to consider; a document that, if accepted, could facilitate shovels hitting the ground this spring.

The draft was distributed to all parties involved in the hearing on January 7th. Given that the hearing was adjourned until March, an opportunity was created for representatives from each party (the Municipality, the developer and the appellant) to meet, review and consider the contents of the draft as part of the process to identify common areas of agreement.

In preparation for the hearing, HCC started to pull their research together into planning arguments. To portray these arguments in a thoroughly professional manner, the group decided to hire an official planner to assess the validity of their arguments. According to Alison Mack, the sole appellant to Dysart's by-law, the resulting draft by-law more accurately addresses concerns about height, density, parking, setbacks and buffers.

That's where Rick Hunter, a partner in Planscape out of Bracebridge, entered the picture. Hunter has extensive experience in issues surrounding development projects and liaising with the general public and public sector agencies. He also has considerable experience in Haliburton County in municipal planning activities as well as writing zoning by-law and official plans.

Mack says that Hunter looked at their planning arguments and found some of them valid, while others were outside the scope of the Planning Act and the planning principles that pertain to developments of this type. Hunter suggested drafting an alternative by-law that adhered strictly to Dysart's zoning by-laws and Official Plan (OP) but which defined a development more in scale with the rest of the community. HCC hoped it would be acceptable to both the Municipality and the developer, Watercolours of Haliburton Ltd.

HCC's most pressing concern was height. Despite the current zoning by-law for medium density housing specifying a 9.5 metre height maximum, the Dysart by-law allows Watercolours a maximum height of 22.3 metres (73.2 feet). According to Mack's calculations, this is more than twice the height of any other building in the community.

HCC looked at Echo Hills and Parklane, both 11 metre tall

structures that have been used as comparisons during discussions about the condominium. Because Parklane is located in a valley, the impact of its height is reduced for the houses on higher ground around it. Echo Hills sits snugly against a hill and can't be seen from other parts of the Village.

Mack and HCC continue to stress the importance of preserving the 'natural characteristics and visual aesthetics' of the Village. Their draft by-law recommends that the height of Watercolours be limited to 11 metres, to match the height of buildings in existence and avoid setting a precedent.

Then there is the matter of density. The Watercolours Condominium is proposed to be 150 units on four acres which equals a density of 37.5 units per acre. This constitutes a 40 percent increase in density above the densest multi-unit residential housing currently in existence in Dysart.

With 45 units on two acres Echo Hills has a density of 22.5 units per acre. Parklane has 50 units on one acre. However, the two lots (representing 2.87 acres) directly in front of Parklane are designated as parklands, with restrictions on any future development. The density of Parklane including its property plus the parklands is 13 units per acre.

Hunter recommends that the condo development be limited to 90 units or a density of 22.5 units per acre. It is interesting to note that the current number of reserved Watercolours units is just under this recommended limitation.

HCC is also very concerned about the number of storeys which are being allowed. The number of stories that will be in the building is unclear as the allowed height of 73 feet could accommodate as many as seven storeys. Reviewing Watercolours' photos and literature, it appears to have five storeys completely above ground. Yet, Dysart's OP states clearly that 'medium density residential development will not exceed three storeys in height.'

According to HCC, the Dysart by-law, specific to Watercolours, does not restrict the number of storeys of this development. It is their position, and that of Hunter that the condo should conform to the OP and be kept to a maximum of three storeys, using the side of the building facing the road for its calculation of the building's storeys and height.

Parking space requirements was another concern and was the subject of considerable discussion amongst Council prior to it accepting that 1.2 spaces per dwelling unit would be sufficient. Their decision was based on the fact that the units would accommodate seniors, and that some units would not have vehicles while others would only have one. HCC suggest that not

Is there a planning solution within our grasp?

enough consideration has been given to parking requirements for daily visits by service providers, staff, non-resident students or family visitors during peak holiday periods.

Both Echo Hills and Parklane have reduced numbers of parking spaces, but both are subsidized housing and many of their residents don't drive. Echo Hills allows for one parking space per unit but there is on-street parking readily available. Parklane allows for .66 parking spaces per unit, but there are two municipal parking lots immediately adjacent to Parklane to accommodate any overflow.

The assumption is always made that Watercolours will be 'seniors' housing.' However, there is legislation that prohibits discrimination by age in the purchase or rental of units, so parking provisions should reflect the needs for a more diverse age range of residents. The condominium won't have any subsidized housing or identifiable group of residents who will be non drivers. In addition, HCC suggests that there is no safe on-street parking available in proximity to the development.

Although discussions have been held with the developer about the future requirement for another parking lot should problems be encountered, there is nothing in the by-law that enforces that requirement. However, if the number of units was reduced, the planned garage would provide more than sufficient parking for 90 units.

With respect to setbacks from property lines, the rule of thumb in planning is that, as the height of a building increases, so too should the setback requirements. In the case of Echo Hills and Parklane, and in fact even when Fleming College was developed, the setback requirements were significantly increased.

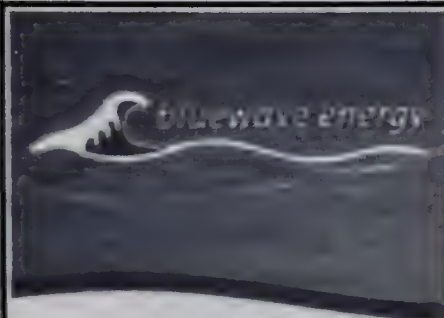
The Dysart by-law actually allows the setback of the main building from the Barnes' and Hutchings' property line to be reduced from the required 1.5 metres to .6 metres. HCC and Hunter are recommending that all the setbacks be increased to provide adequate buffers between those properties and the condominium. (The OP states 'where medium density development abuts single unit dwellings, adequate provision will be made for buffer planting or other appropriate screening to minimize any potential adverse impacts.')

Given the tremendous shadow the condominium will cast and views of the lake that it will cut off for its neighbours, HCC also proposes that the setback of the condo from the road should be increased, and should not be less than that of the Barnes' home next door.

After a number of meetings with Mack and Stephen Foster, who are the voices for HCC, it seems that what is being offered here is something for Haliburtonians to think about during the dark winter nights of February. If you have a strong opinion about the development or what HCC proposes, the OMB hearing reconvenes on March 3rd and is expected to continue through to March 6th. There will be a special public session on the evening of March 3rd at 7:00 p.m. where residents will be welcome to address the Board's adjudicator.



The view from Cedar Avenue towards old Fleming College and the future site of Watercolours. The height markings show the 22.3 metre height exemption approved by Dysart et al, and the 11 metre height proposed by HCC and their planner.



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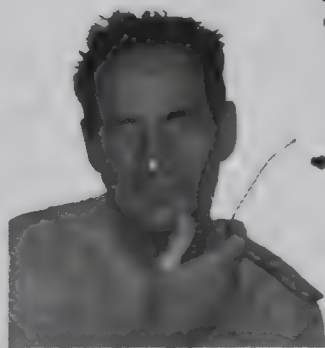
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The Fighting Goes On – No Ceasefire in Sight

The NHL Has the Ultimate Tough Talking Neanderthal In Charge of Deterrence



Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

Here's what I've heard over the decades. And recently from some talking head on Mike Landsberg's rollin' and rockin' talk spot Off the Record,

Canada's pot-pourri paean to not-quite-Pulitzer-punditry.

"No one gets hurt in a hockey fight, Mike." Not once, not twice, but many times I heard the refrain whizzing by my wonderstruck noggin as I watched, glued by the eerie entropy of the stunning prose of a Tie Domi or a Bob Probert or a Matthew Barnaby who have all weighed-in wordily on OTR and other programs about the efficacy of fighting in the NHL. I hear guys like Bobby Clarke, Brian Burke, Don Cherry, and a round robin shopping list of the pro-enforcement cognoscente blithely mouthing surly sentiment about the Braveheart legacy of the stoic gladiator.

Yes, man needs its enforcers. Even Plato in his seminal book *The Republic* said that justice comes with a price. That the human race should be beholden to standard. How that notion of justice has sashayed its way onto the ice of Canadian hockey arenas still remains a mystery to me. I want enforcement. Man needs its enforcers. I'd just prefer that they wear blue, ride black and whites, and carry a gun and a badge. Period.

My latest issue of *Scientific American* arrived last week and tells me that we are celebrating 150 years of Darwinism. In 1859 Charles Darwin published the *Origin of the Species*. In reading further I was told that everywhere, all around this lovely patch of green and blue, there are extant and effervescent signs of evolution.

News flash. Darwin catapults capriciously through his chilly grave, watching from some distant heavenly dais, as North American hockey singly and anecdotally stands the theory of evolution on its Neanderthal head. A Cro-Magnon fetish for fighting in hockey leads me to wonder why Darwin's landmark thesis apparently grinds to a halt just two lazy steps into any hockey arena in North America.

The death of 21-year-old Whitby Dunops' player Don Sanderson pulled pall off a dirty little secret kept in a Pandora's lockup lo' these many years.

Yes Bobby, Bobby, Brian, Don, Tie, and you too Colin Campbell and Gary Bettman. Now hear this. People do get hurt in hockey fights. Young people. People in the prime of their lives. In fact, and here's another go-to point for the ethics-stuttered NHL execs, sitting in high-paunch and myopic brain freeze, somewhere high above the fray.

People not only get hurt, but they also get dead in hockey fights. That's dead and it's spelled D-E-A-D! For you Colie and you Gary sitting blithe and blank in your executive digs the word is dead; that rhymes with head, which is the fragile capsule that unfortunately gets mangled to mush during the course of a certain percentage of hockey fights. Colie Campbell would know all about that. He racked up just shy of 1500 penalty minutes in the course of his 12 year pro career in the NHL/WHA. How many shots to the head did poor old Roly-Poly-Colie take in 12 sea-

sons as mainstay enforcer and chipped-up defender? I'll hazard a guess here: way too many. Just me spitballing here of course.

And still the NHL, in the full-fledged, blunt force trauma scenario of a death in a senior men's league, stutter, spit, and sway googlie-eyed into the cameras and the microphones pointed at them. The fifth estate pleading for comment. The NHL, toting the wisdom of an aging hierarchy and refusing to discuss the matter on any real or intelligent level, will hearken "tradition" and détente. Détente referring of course to protection of marquee players. Begging the question: what the hell are those guys in black and white stripes doing with those whistles in their hands?

Twenty Veep Campbell and Commisar Bettman beg off and toss anecdotes like so much feta in a Greek Salad. And like small-time Caesars at the Coliseum in Rome, they offer thumbs down for any assault on "tradition" in hockey. The tradition? Fighting of course. But fair and fastidious fighting of course. You know the kind of fighting we mean says Roly-Poly Colie: "The kind of fighting where no one gets hurt." My god. It's almost as if Colie Campbell had been schooled at Plato's nurturing knee in the agora on some sun-drenched Grecian isle. It's so simple. Of course. The harmless fighting. The unimpeachable, less bloody struggle between two Bauer-bedecked gladiators. The kind of fighting where no hands are broken, no heads bloodied, and no concussions rendered. Easy-peasey. Problem solved.

According to the blinkered NHL execs, Don Sanderson's death should be qualified in the harsh light of reality.

Now that someone's died, I'm hearing more slinky slithers into ersatz solar nebula traveled formerly only by intrepid space safari types like Captain Kirk. So let's all go where no man has gone before. Here's the new motto de jour good hockey fans.

"No one gets hurt in an NHL hockey fight." Ah yes, let's skirt the parameters here. This is the new rallying cry, issued bland and creepily from the lips of those upper echelon NHL execs who get paid according to their ability to put over-stuffed American gludiae maxima into the luxury seats. Long ago Bettman and Colie were apprised of their mandate to breathe life into the faltering expansionists in Phoenix, Nashville and Columbus (among others). The Yanks love their Hatfields and McCoys and the NHL remains beholden to the American greenback. Ipso facto fighting will remain to appease the lathered and loopy-doodle-dandy fan base.

And so after Sanderson's needless death and in the face of a recent incident in the NHL in Vancouver last Thursday Colie Campbell will continue to plug this forlorn jug with the rhetoric of the obstructionist. When in doubt blurt, when challenged blurt louder. When stymied, leave the press conference, blurring, farting and shaking your tired old, much-mayhemed melon.

Last Thursday in the first period of an NHL game between the Phoenix Coyotes and Vancouver Canucks Phoenix forward Dan Carcillo, his helmet removed, was thrown to the ice during a fight with Canuck Rob Davison. I watched it five times and physically winced each time as I watched the exposed back of his head slam mercilessly against the hard ice. Carcillo rose and skated to the penalty box. His head hit the ice with the thud of rubber hammer on ripe cantaloupe.

Carcillo might have died. But remember dear friends the words of the giants of the hockey industry. "No one really gets hurt in an NHL hockey fight." Bet your life on this one. Roly-Poly Colie says so. It must be true.

Campbell said this to the *Globe and Mail's* Alan Maki last weekend: "It's an issue that Gary [NHL Commisar Bettman] and I have had several conversations about. It's not an easy answer," Campbell explained. "Do you want the wild sticks, guys running around taking pot shots at stars? Is that what will hap-

pen? This is a pretty complex area of the game."

No Colie it's not. It may be for you, but for most thinking men and women who have benefited from a full, well-rounded life and some modicum dose of a liberal post-secondary education it's not difficult at all. It's not hard for soccer authorities or basketball execs or for football mandarins to legislate zero tolerance for fighting. Marquee players are protected by the officials and not by stick-slinging, ham-fisted stone agers. Guys come to think, who remind me of a certain high-dudgeoned NHL executive.

What's simple is this.

Colie Campbell's professional hockey record might serve to illuminate why fighting in hockey is not prone to scrutiny or debate. In 12 professional hockey seasons Colie racked up 25 goals and 103 assists and 1292 minutes in penalties. A lot of those minutes earned via the unleathered fist and noggin dent.

Some pundits may even suggest that the ham-handed Campbell might not have had a professional career if the rules for fighting were different in the NHL.

Now, I'm not suggesting that Colie is carrying an agenda or has an innate and inbred conflict of interest when it comes to enforcers and the manly art of pugilism in professional hockey.

I'm just relaying the woeful stats of a former enforcer. And saying, let's investigate the motives and put the agenda up against the bas-relief backdrop of life and death in the NHL.

Because you can deal with it now or wait until someone doesn't get up from a fight.

You know the fight I'm talking about.

The kind of NHL main event dust-up where no one gets hurt. □

Highland Storm Playdowns Begin

This past weekend the seven Highland Storm Rep teams began what will hopefully be a long journey through the Ontario Minor Hockey League's annual playdowns. Six of the teams began preliminary rounds, and one, the Novice CCs, began their quarter final with a 7-3 win over the Orono Leafs. Next game is Saturday January 24th, at the Dysart Arena.

Next up, the Atom CC team split their first two games with Orono, losing 4-1 last Friday in Orono, but coming back strong the next day in Haliburton with a stirring 5-0 victory. They play away on Friday January 23rd, then return to Haliburton for games on Saturday, and, if necessary, on Sunday, the 25th.

The Atom AE team faced Ennismore for one game, going down 6-5: the second game will be in Ennismore on the 24th, and the third back home on the 25th.

Both the Pee wee CC and the Bantam CC won their opening series in convincing fashion with three victories each against Orono and will advance to the next round, with games likely scheduled for the weekend of January 31st. Opponents are yet to be decided, but will be drawn from the Campbellford/North Frontenac/Ennismore circuit. The Pee wee CC team boasted great defence and goaltending, allowing only two goals over the three games, combined with a powerful, 21-goal attack led by Captain Nate Feir and Centre Curtis Ballantyne. The Bantam series was much tighter, and chippier, with the Storm prevailing by scores of 3-1, 4-2, and 2-1 in overtime.

The Midget CCs also took on Orono on the weekend, winning two of three in a decidedly chippy series. Coach Bruce Griffith commented that the team with the most discipline would likely emerge the winner. The line of Scott Griffith, Mark Vasey and Ashley Haley accounted for nine of the Storm's 12 goals. The next game is in Orono tonight (Thursday), and the final game, if necessary, at 8:30 Saturday in Minden. ■

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Red Hawk Hockey Team Braces for the End Game

Just Four Games Remain in Hal High's regular Season

Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

If the second half of the Red Hawk hockey team's thus far stellar season rolls out according to plan, the team should be well situated for a crucial first round sudden-death match-up in the Kawartha zone quarter finals slated for February 19th.

The 3-1-1 Red Hawks only loss came via a tough 5-3 decision to perennial Kawartha powerhouse Holy Cross Crusaders.

The Hawks scheduled road game against Campbellford High School was cancelled last week and will have to be rescheduled. Head coaches Ron Yake and Gary Brohman are naturally pleased with the way things have shaken out this season.

This was, after all, a squad that was something of an unknown commodity at season's start.

A couple of successful tournament sashays and a successful first half, says Yake, serves to solidify a stringent belief that this is a team that can make a pretty powerful statement.

With just four games remaining in the regular season and the team now ensconced in first semester exams, Yake says the coaching staff will be allowing the players to concentrate for the nonce on their studies.

"We only have one practice scheduled for Friday this week," said Yake. Exams started on Wednesday of this week and continue into next week. Yake says that the team will also schedule some skates for the following week in preparation for a quick return to the fray on February 2nd.

The four remaining games in the schedule are all against AA schools and thus all of the results will count in the standings and will also go a long way to determining that all-important first round playoff berth. [The Kawartha League is made of AA and AAA squads, so losses accumulated against the interlocking AAA schools do not count against the Hawks overall record.]

Yake says that the Hawks will be authors of their own fate in this all-important second semester post-exam run.

"If we come off of the break and if we come out and play right off like we know we can, we have a great opportunity to win all four games," said Yake. As already explained, the first round, which pits one versus eight, two versus seven, six versus three and four versus five, are all sudden death, do or die events.

The second semi-final round are best of three affairs with the league final another sudden death tilt. The final is sudden death because both finalists ultimately advance to the COSSA play-downs.

Yake said that the four games remaining would comprise a zesty test of mettle for his players. Right now Yake and Brohman are pretty happy with the level of play and Yake adds that all of his players have bought into the system and are playing increasingly like a unit.

Goaltending remains a pivotal point as teams move toward playoffs and Yake said that the Hawks are lucky to have two stellar backstops ready to step into the fray.

Paddy Manuge and Alex Monk-Cray have split the net chores right down the middle this season and Yake sees no reason to change that system right now, citing that time-honored coach's dictum: "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

"Both those guys have been playing really well for us, so they'll both be playing the last four games," said Yake. He did say that a decision will have to be made when it comes to that all-important sudden death first round quarter final on February 19th. But Yake said that the coaches would make that call when the time comes. He said that it may very well shake down in the remaining four games. "We'll have to see how both goalies play in the remaining games," said Yake. Right now though it appears that Yake has the utmost of confidence in both of his netminders, who have, it must be said, played extremely well in all of their games this season.

The Hawks next take to the ice in a rescheduled game against St Thomas Aquinas here at home at the Dysart Emporium on Monday, Feb 2nd. Game time for that important tilt is 7:15 pm.

On Feb 5th the hawks travel to Peterborough and Adam Scott for an afternoon game. On Monday, Feb 9th the Hawks square off against Cobourg West at Dysart for another 7:15 pm tilt.

Yake said that the new date for the postponed Campbellford game would be penciled in this week. He added that just looking at comparable records, the four remaining games are eminently winnable. And considering the iffy and nerve racking nature of the sudden-death playoff format, a team that is ranked one or two going into the Kawartha playdowns will definitely have the advantage of the catbird seat.

"We'll be looking to finish the season strong because it's a definite advantage to be ranked high in that first round," says Yake.

That said, the Hawks did suffer a blow recently with the loss of young Darren Howorko. Howorko was a freshman, but was a pretty impressive part of the puzzle this year. Howorko has moved to Bowmanville and will be lost to the Hawks for the balance of the season.

That door closed, Yake and Brohman are nonetheless upbeat

with the addition of another youngster Greg Clements who has been called up to fill the hole left by Howorko's untimely departure.

"We added Greg just recently and he's been doing a real good job for us," said Yake. Meanwhile the team will continue to skate in between first semester exams both this week and next.

Yake says that the teams that come out of that exam break with a passion and refreshed will have the best chance to do well in the second half of the season.

"If we play well we could win all four of those games and that's certainly our goal," said Yake. Holy Cross is currently first in league standings with a record of 6-1. They remain the team to beat, but Yake said that once the playoffs begin all bets are off and the slate is wiped and ready for the team that is ultimately girded for the final run.

"If we're playing and everyone's healthy, we'll give any team a go," said Yake.

Overtime: Remaining home games are February 2nd and 9th against Aquinas and Cobourg West respectively. The Dysart Emporium is a great place to watch a game and the price is certainly right. Bring a cushion and come and take in some excellent hockey. Game times are 7:15 pm. At the Emporium. ■



STOLEN SNOWMOBILE

(Haliburton, ON.) – Officers from the Haliburton Highlands Detachment were called to investigate a report of a stolen snow machine Saturday afternoon in the Village of Haliburton.

The investigating revealed that the victim parked his machine in the municipal parking lot on York Street shortly after 3:00pm. Several other machines were parked in the same location. When the owner of the machine returned at 4:25pm the machine had been stolen.

The stolen machine is a 1998 Polaris XC 700 white in colour bearing Ontario Lic#814317.

Anyone with information on this incident is asked to call the O.P.P. Communications Centre at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS. ■



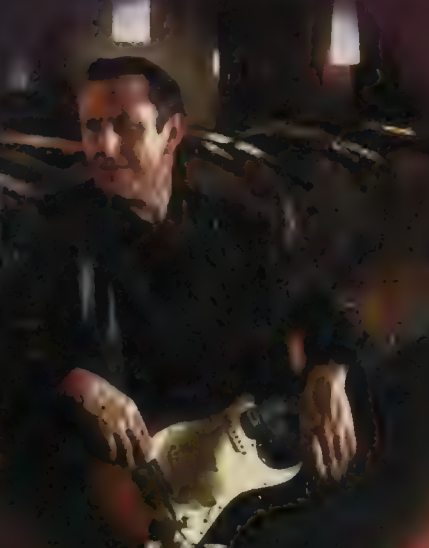
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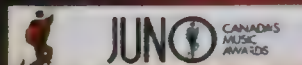
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Sir Sam's Hosts a Weekend of Wild and Woolly Races Inaugural Skier and Boarder Cross Races Draw Boffo Reviews

Terrance Gavan

Sports Editor

Skiercross and boardercross are relatively new alpine events borne from that never-ending search for thrills on snow.

Sir Sam's Ski Area jumped a gap and onto a bandwagon with the first two race events of the Ontario racer-cross season last weekend. The hill hosted the Canadian Free-style Ski Association's (CFSA) first skier cross event last Saturday.

And on Sunday a huge number of snowboarders from across the province arrived at Sir Sam's to compete in the first sanctioned Association of Ontario Snowboarders (AOS) boarder cross event of the season.

"We hosted the first events of the season for these two races," said Sir Sam's Ski Area co-owner Chris Bishop via the resort's website. "Racers from around the province competed for great prizes and bragging rights. Comments from association organizers and competitors were very positive on the course and set up."

Bishop added that the resort intends to hold more cross skier and boarder cross events in the future.

Skiercross was named as a sanctioned event for the 2010 Winter Olympics at Whistler. It's becoming a huge sport across North America. World-class downhillers like Canada's Eric Guay have dabbled in the four-man head-to-head breakneck crunch at venues like Mont Tremblant. Graying World Cuppers are finding new life on the pro cross circuit. The exuberance and opulence of skiercross was in fulsome view last Saturday at Sir Sam's. Watching from a nice vantage and snapping high speed shots of the head-to-head action it was easy to see why this sport is growing.

One of the far-sighted technicians and founders of the sport Kipp Nelson says that it's a sport whose time has come.

"It's a racing format that suits our culture," says Nelson, shortly after he heard of the event being sanctioned by the Vancouver Olympics. "Simple and exciting, it puts four racers on the hill at once and first one to the finish wins. Since skiercross is the racing format for the new Ski Tour, no longer will Olympic format ski racing only be held in Europe in January, February and March. The world's best will be competing in the U.S. during the heart of the winter."

It came to Sir Sam's with a vengeance last Saturday and it featured a full day of racing down the newly renovated Banana Run, a beautiful venue, cleared and widened last summer, by Doug Hogarth's local excavation company. Banana was made for the cross.

Filled with tight turns, rolling terrain and a bumper car mindset.

No wonder skiercross events across North America and the world have taken off of late.

But as with most alpine innovations, we must give full props to the boarding community. They did it first.

Yes, ho-hum. The first boardercross event occurred long before skiers ever chugged onto the scene. Some hardcore shredders staged and filmed the first Boardercross event on Blackcomb Mountain in February of 1991. The first race was held at Whistler's twinned peak and featured 8 boarders - 7 men and 1 woman - with pro snowboarder Dan Donnelly of Ferndale Washington winning the first ever contest.

The boardercross event will also be an Olympic Event in Whistler in 2010. Last Sunday, the first AOS sanctioned boardercross charged hard down the Banana race-course with a full slate of competitors culled from resorts across the province gathered to vie for honors at Sir Sam's.

Both skier and boarder races featured a wide range of competitors drawn from a number of age categories. Kids joined in with the hard-core open competitors in a wide-ranging array of heats. Simply put, it was a full day of fun and racing for kids of all ages who also gleaned an understanding of the capricious nature of the rapidly burgeoning crossover events.

Big throws and kudos to the Sir Sam's groomers who managed to carve out a very challenging, yet ultimately safety-first course on the newly minted Banana trail.

The events featured a steep dish and dash from the starting gates into a narrow sweeping left crank followed quickly by a right turn onto the loaded rollers on Banana. The course was technical, flowing, with just that soupcon of laissez-faire rolled gaps leading to the finish. Picture that with four racers chugging into a tight corner, fending off the looming rumble of a fellow racer noodling over the backs of your skis while elbowing into the passing lane.

All-in-all a nice little event to put some spice into a weekend at Sir Sam's.

The open events of the skier cross were swept by a triumverate of Sir Sam's Snow School instructors.

Duncan Weenan placed first, snow school director Dave Webb placed second and Doug Hogarth finished third in the men's open skiercross event which featured a cross section of racers from across the province.

Victoria Fenninger and Kelly Gordon finished one-two in the Women's Open skiercross event. Top two finishers in the 10-11 girls category were Samantha Good and Delaney Hughes. In the 10 and under boys category Brandon Armstrong and Levon Ha-

mann finished one-two. In the 11-13 Boys section Jack Hogarth was first, Alex Sutherland second and Kevin Dick ran third. In the 14 to 18 Boys Event Adam Guindan placed first, Andrew Sutherland second and Daniel Armstrong third.

In the AOS Boardercross on Sunday, the Oshawa Ski Club's Sawyer Herron won gold in the men's open category. Mark Mackenzie placed second and Erik Krebs placed third in the men's open.

Andrea Hagarty placed first in the women's open event, while Jennifer Mizell and Victoria Fenninger placed second and third respectively.

Sir Sam's Suzanne McKechnie won gold in the women's masters event. In the men's masters event Oshawa's Robert Cox placed first, while Sir Sam's members Brent Devolin and Stephen Good placed second and third.

In the boys youth event Calter Kolaruk won gold, Mackenzie Robinson captured silver and Ryan Bessette won bronze.

In the female junior category Elle Herron captured the gold, Kaitlion Clow won silver and Mercedes Cant captured the bronze medal.

In the male junior event Paul Fairbank was first and Dimitri Tovell placed second. ■



Municipality of Dysart et al

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Haliburton Lake - West Bay

Tender Documents and execution forms can be obtained at the Dysart Municipal Office, 135 Maple Avenue, Haliburton, Ontario or on our website at www.dysartet.al.ca

Tenders must be received on or before 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 4th, 2009.

Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

NOTICE OF CONTRACTOR INPUT MEETING

The Municipality is seeking input from the general contractors, equipment operators and landscaping companies regarding the problems the Municipality experiences with road damage caused during work being completed on private property.

The Municipality is inviting input on this issue as a means of coming up with a collective resolution to the ongoing road damage problems.

A meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 2nd, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Dysart Municipal Office, and we would encourage participation.

The County of Haliburton



NOTICE

The Council of the County of Haliburton
will be holding a
2009 budget meeting at
1:00pm on
Wednesday, January 28th, 2009
at 11 Newcastle St., Minden.

The public is welcomed to attend.

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Girls Vie to Land Lead Role

Highlands Summer Festival Auditions Begin



Yes, her real name is Annie, Annie McBrien-Lyons that is. The 9-year old, who currently lives in Oakville, came out for auditions to land the lead role in the musical Annie. The production is one of many being put on by The Highlands Summer Festival.

Twenty-two brave young girls aspiring to land the starring role in The Highlands Summer Festival's production of the classic musical, Annie, auditioned for the part this past Saturday at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion.

A panel of judges, including the play director, choreographer and musical director, reviewed applicants between the ages of six and 13 for the coveted role. In the audition, applicants had to sing one verse or 16 bars of a song from a musical theatre production other than Annie.

About a dozen call backs were made the following day and those not chosen for the lead role had the chance to be selected for one of the many parts as a chorus singer.

The musical Annie is based on the cartoon strip, "Little Orphan Annie", which follows the adventures of a young girl in search for her parents.

More auditions are being held this coming weekend and this time they are for adult roles in the musical. To book an audition time or for more information, contact Betty Mills at 705 457-1354. Also call Betty if you're interested in helping with off-stage duties.

For more information on what is planned for the 10th annual Highlands Summer Festival visit www.highlandsummerfestival.on.ca.

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ACROSS

- 1 Mineral suffix
4 Awaited
9 Two, in Tijuana
12 Out of line
17 Worthless
19 Pad
20 Journalist Tarbell
21 Hapsburg capital
22 Like a spy story
25 Actress Jennifer
26 Former Pentagon head
27 Big name in locks
28 Dweeb's cousin?
30 Competitor
31 Germ type
34 Made likely
37 Pumper's pride
38 Harrison Ford movie
41 With 68 down, "CHiPs" star
42 Tenor Thomas
46 Writer Hunter
47 Turf
48 Field marshal Rommel
50 Chemistry info
51 Gets slushy
53 Seoul soldier

- 55 Non-threatening
58 Ms. Goldberg
60 Act like Etna
62 Fine stuff?
64 Actor Everett
65 Bring up
67 Conger
68 Look over
69 "Superman" star
70 Pitch in
72 Somerset Maugham work
76 Pale
77 Gravy ingredient
79 Prison pariah
80 Rum sum
81 Mead's milieu
83 Eatery
84 Snyder or Hanks
85 Houston ballplayer
87 Detest
90 "Calendar Girl" crooner
92 Fox's foot
94 Desert schlepper
96 Circus barker?
97 Fight site
99 Crank's comment

- 101 Take risks
102 Auto adornment
103 Very, very satisfied
104 Michael Ansara series
108 Egg plant?
109 Fondue ingredient
110 Rifleman
114 Business abbr.
115 James of "Misery"
116 Pearl Harbor's locale
119 Hold back
121 Flautist James
123 The Searchers hit
128 Private's posture
129 Lodge member
130 Carry on
131 Joy Adamson's joy
132 Hirsute Jamaican
133 Occupy a cot
134 Chutzpah
135 Chariot bumper?

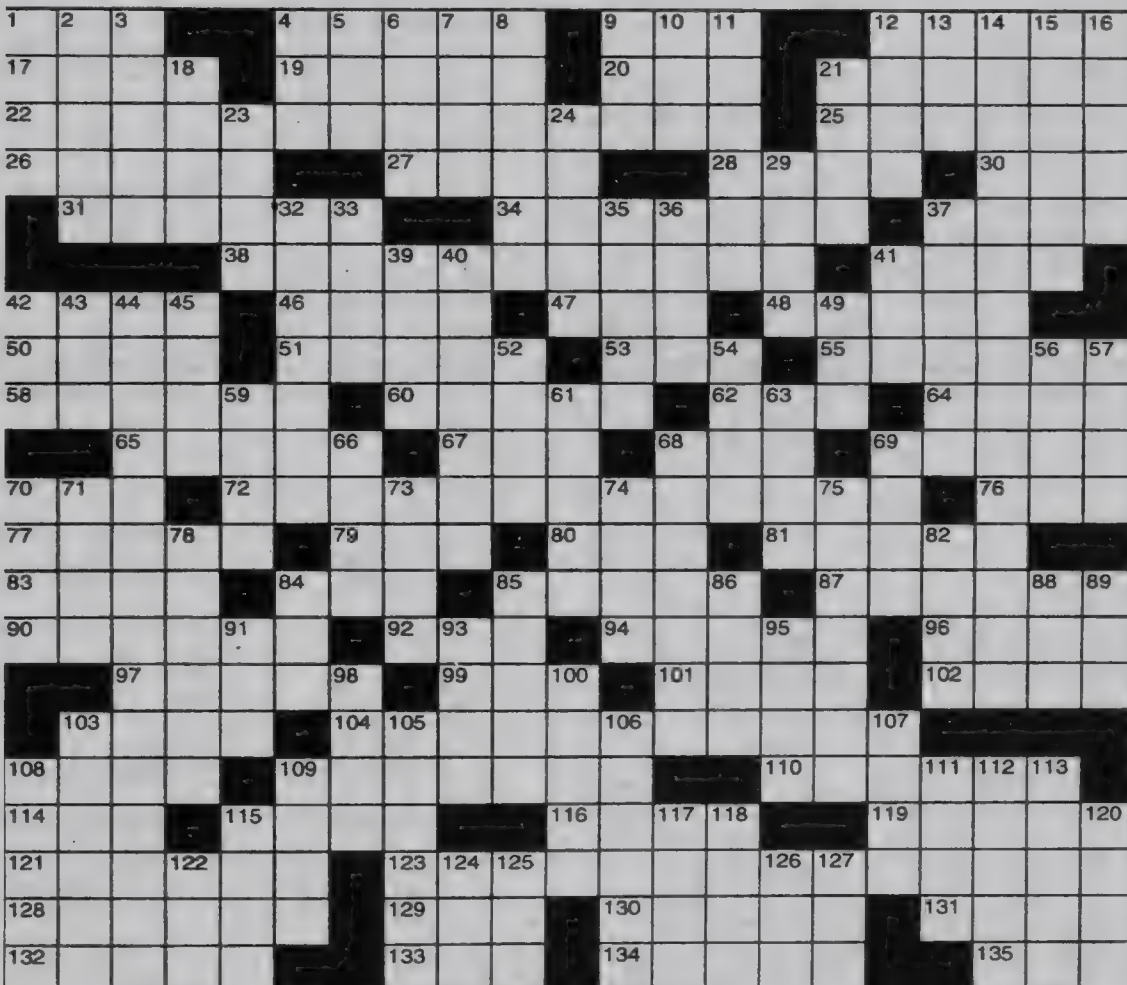
DOWN

- 1 Peruvian of old
2 Oklahoma city

- 3 Hitch in haste
4 Quote from 41 down
5 — Saud
6 Comic Goodman
7 Snorri's stories
8 He moves cars
9 Excavate
10 Laudatory lyrics
11 French philosopher
12 Isn't completely wrong?
13 Diocese
14 Roman Polanski film
15 Put behind bars
16 Cardiff's country
18 Where lions laze
21 Nothing but space
23 Handle
24 Class
29 Used to be
32 Imperfection
33 Roof edge
35 Breathe like a bull
36 Reverse
37 Eventual monarch
39 Chip's chum
40 Beseech

- 41 Fluffy female
42 Mouth piece?
43 Antique ending
44 Impending peril
45 Pericles' portico
49 Mil. group
52 De Lesseps' ditch
54 Danny or Stubby
56 Hot rocks?
57 Early orchard?
59 Essence
61 Machinations
63 Some wines
66 Mr. Saarinen
68 See 41
69 Across
70 Basics
71 "Dies —"
73 Interstate exit
74 Coll. cadets
75 Armada member
78 Shred
82 Kind of kiln
84 Prepare to be in
85 Vigilant
86 Astronomer Khayyam

- 88 "Ball —"
89 New Haven hardwood
91 Brew barrel
93 — Named Sue" ('69 hit)
95 Slips up
98 "— Ca-Dabra" ('74 song)
100 Biblical tyrant
103 Musical composition
105 Stream
106 Kevin of "SNL"
107 Unrestrained
108 Churchill trademark
109 Motown's Marvin
111 Organ part
112 Boxer Griffith
113 Hair coloring
115 — Grande, AZ
117 Present
118 Weekend warriors (Abbr.)
120 Autocrat
122 Angkor — (Cambodian temple)
124 Ivy Leaguer
125 Manage, with "out"
126 Off-rd. transport
127 Formerly known as



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FOR WEEK OF JAN. 26, 2009

Horoscopes

It's in the Stars

BORN THIS WEEK: Your ability to reach out to those in need of spiritual comfort makes you a much-revered, much-loved person in your community.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Taking some time out of your usually busy social life could be just what you need to help you focus on putting those finishing touches on your plans for a possible career change.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) A misunderstanding about a colleague's suggestions could create a delay in moving on with your proposal. But by week's end, all the confusing points should finally be cleared up.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You might feel overwhelmed by all the tasks you suddenly have to take care of. But just say the magic word — help! — and you'll soon find others rushing to offer much-needed assistance.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Finishing a current project ahead of schedule leaves you free to deal with other upcoming situations, including a possible workplace change, as well as a demanding personal matter.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Turn that fine-tuned feline sensitivity radar up to high to help uncover any facts that could influence a decision you might be preparing to make. Devote the weekend to family activities.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A state of confusion is soon cleared up with explanations from the responsible parties. Don't waste time chastising anyone. Instead, move forward with your plans.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You might feel obligated to help work out a dispute between family members. But this is one of those times when you should step aside and let them work out their problems on their own.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your ability to resolve an on-the-job problem without leaving too many ruffled feathers earns you kudos from co-workers. You also impress major decision-makers at your workplace.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Newly made and long-held friendships merge well, with possibly one exception. Take time to listen to the dissenter's explanations. You could learn something important.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Be prepared to be flexible about your current travel plans. Although you don't have to take them, at least consider suggestions from the experts in the travel business.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A problem with a recent financial transaction could lead to more problems later on unless you resolve it immediately. Get all the proof you need to support your position.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Daydreaming makes it difficult to stay focused on what you need to do. But reality sets in by mid-week, and you manage to get everything done in time for a relaxing weekend.



Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: I consider my best friend, "Randall," to be my platonic soul mate — like a brother, only closer. Randall is gay. I am a straight female. We have no romantic interest, but a deep and meaningful love nonetheless.

We have talked about raising children together, but in order to adopt in some states there is a requirement that the parents be married. Our state does not happen to be one of them.

Would it be considered duping friends and family to have a "real" wedding? — PLATONIC SOUL MATE IN MICHIGAN

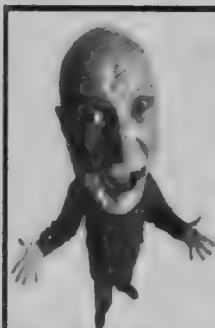
DEAR PLATONIC SOUL MATE: There is no requirement that in order to be married a couple MUST have sex. If you and Randall wish to be legally married and have a "real" wedding, nothing prevents it.

HOWEVER: Before you take such a step, it is extremely important that you and Randall have an understanding and ensure that you are really committed to raising a child (or children) TOGETHER, even if one of you should meet someone. It would be sad, indeed, if after adopting, the marriage didn't work out and you wound up fighting over custody of the children. It happens all too often when "traditional" marriages fail, and it could happen to you unless you have a meeting of the minds.

DEAR ABBY: There is a bully at my daughter's school. My child is terrified to get on the bus in the morning and shaking when she comes home. She told me that the bully picks only on her. She has taken my daughter's lunch money, shoved her against the lockers and pushed her into one of the garbage cans behind the school.

I have complained to the school board and to the bully's mom. It did no good. I can't afford to take my daughter out of public school and put her into a private school, and if I quit my job to home school her, we will have no source of income. I don't want my daughter to suffer any more than she already has. What should I do? — HEARTSICK MOTHER, RICHARDSON, TEXAS

DEAR MOTHER: I'm sorry you didn't tell the principal of your daughter's school what was happening before it went this far, because he or she would have been required to document the incident. Because your daughter has been robbed and assaulted and your complaints have not been addressed, you should contact the police and file a report.



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The Frost Fest Countdown Begins

Planning Committee Firms Up Schedule for Three-Day Festival

Haliburton's first Frost Fest is only three weeks away, and the schedule for the three-day event is almost finalized.

This past Monday, an events planning committee met at the Dysart et al building in Haliburton to firm-up some of the details for the large-scale festival set to take place on the Family Day weekend in Haliburton on Friday, Feb. 13 — Sunday, Feb. 15.

The Frost Fest will bring members of the community and tourists together for a weekend of activities including: snow-shoeing, skating and kids games. Live ice sculpture demos, horse drawn sleigh rides, a torchlight parade, a children's ice slide and more will also attract many to the Village.

A concert hosted by Kashaga Paint Productions featuring artist Jack de Keyzer will be held at the Delta Pinestone Resort on Saturday evening. The inaugural Frost Fest will also coincide with the 8th annual Haliburton Highlands Dog Sled Derby which will be held at the Pinestone.

Snack food and hot chocolate will be served up at the Rails End Gallery and bonfires in the area will help keep crowds warm while they take a break from the events.

Since many of the activities for The Frost Fest will take place around Head Lake Park, the issue of snowmobiler traffic in the area was brought up at the meeting.

"Where are the sleds going to go?" asked Reeve Murray Fearrey. Brian Nicholson, Roads Superintendent, answered saying that most of the time, sleds coming off Head Lake enter the park near Rotary Beach. That also happens to be the area near the location of the rink.

Fearrey asked Miles Maughan, Dysart et al Fire Chief, to look at ways of ensuring that snowmobile traffic wouldn't interfere with the many activities in the park.

Since so many activities will take place during the weekend around the central area of the Village, Nicholson suggested that York St. (from the Highland St. entrance to the Rails End Gallery) be closed for safety reasons.

"People will still have access to some of the businesses on York St. without having to worry about getting hit by traffic," Nicholson told The Voice. "We want to keep motorized traffic away from the festivities."

Nicholson added that those driving to the event would have access to parking in many areas of the town including the ball diamond by the municipal building, Rotary Beach and by the 4C's building. Nicholson, however, said he was unsure if parking will be made available in the lot beside the Rails End Gallery, near the orange caboose.

"I don't know what's happening with that," he said. "It hasn't been brought up at one of our meetings yet."

On the first night of the event (Friday), Cottage Dreams will host a movie screening of "Snow Dogs" on a large inflatable screen in the bandshell that is located at Head Lake Park. At Monday's meeting, Seana O'Neill, President of Cottage Dreams, said that she would be looking for hay bales in order to provide people with seating.

In a phone interview with The Voice on the following day, O'Neill said that people should bring their own chairs to the screening if they have them.

"The area will be groomed so it will be flat," said O'Neill. "But if people have hay we're still open to that." Those with hay bales should first contact O'Neill at 705 457-9100 before considering bringing any to the event.

The municipality is also looking for eager volunteers who are willing to assist with the operations of the event.

"We have it set up for four volunteers at a time who would work in two hour time slots," said Councillor Andrea Roberts. Those interested should call Roberts at 705 457-9810.

For a full list of events scheduled for the Frost Fest visit www.frostfest.ca.

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FOR RENT: In town - Walk to amenities. Renovated and bright 2-bedroom apartment with garage. Those who are NON-SMOKING and have NO PETS are welcome to apply. HEAT INCLUDED! \$925 + hydro. Call 457-9108 and leave message. (D0109-0015)

FOR RENT One bedroom apartment between Minden and Haliburton, \$600/mo and \$650/mo for couple, utilities included, references, no pets, non-smoker, first and last required. Available Feb. 1st Pls. call Carmen @ 457-8849 (C0109-0016)

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FOR LESS



Bailey Walker with her painting.

To many adults, art and art galleries are intimidating things. Most people, who aren't taught as youngsters to appreciate art, tend to shy away from it as adults.

It's a problem all gallery curators struggle with, as they depend to a large extent on the public for their existence. So it is in Minden. But thanks to hard work by curator Laurie Carmount, the Agnes Jamieson Gallery (AJG) has, through creative programming and exhibitions, managed to entice people to their gallery who wouldn't normally visit.

Part of the reason for this success is that rather than stand back and let the community come to them, Carmount, with enthusiastic support from Cultural Centre Director Daniela Pagliaro, has recognized the need to become pro-active in exposing people to the power and joy of art. They've also realized that appreciation starts with education, and to that end have targeted Archie Stouffer Elementary School (ASES) in Minden as a great place where students can learn something of the basic elements of art, in order to better understand what they see when they go to a



Maia O'Sullivan with her painting.

talked about the history of Canadian landscape, and also showed the students how to sketch. The students then learned about 11 Canadian artists who were inspired by the natural beauty here, and painted in Haliburton.

In order to gain a true sense of landscape art, the Grade 8's were bussed to Camp Wanakita where they were given further instruction in sketching by artists Gary Chapman and Gary Blundell. The students' sketches were later used as reference points for art done in the classroom, with further instruction coming from Carmount, and artists Shelley Beach and Rose Pearson. Students worked in three mediums; pen and ink, watercolour, and acrylics. The AJG exhibition which opened on January 9th is the result of the four month project.

My Backyard

Archie Stouffer Grade 8's Show Their Artistic Side

George Farrell

Staff Reporter

gallery

The latest project in the arts education of ASES students is called 'My Backyard'. It's a project which has culminated in the opening, at the AJG, of an exhibition of the artistic endeavors of Grade 8 students, many of whom had a strong initial aversion to art.

In the spring of 2008, the Agnes Jamieson Gallery received funding from the Ontario Arts Foundation and the Minden Hills Cultural Centre Foundation to create an educational project for Grade 8 art classes.

The goal of the project was to show the influence that the Haliburton Highlands have had on listed Canadian artists from the early 1900s to the 1960s. The project was broken down into three parts starting with an introduction presented by Carmount. She



Michael Nelson with his painting.

the Highlands today, and Jack Bush's son is also a resident. We delivered the program at ASES from 1:30 to 3:30 Monday and Thursday. I was working closely with art teacher Liz Bloomfield, and she was really welcoming."

But how did the kids respond to the art classes and the uncertainty arising from their work being shown in a gallery? Bailey Walker, whose work titled 'Cloudy Fall Day' represents a colourful landscape all residents of the Highlands can quickly recognize as familiar, said "I was afraid at first, and didn't want to be embarrassed, but once the artists taught us different tips and brush strokes I wasn't scared any more. I liked learning things like putting sand in my acrylic paint to get a texture."

Maia O'Sullivan's contribution is called 'The Winter Evergreens' and the green, brown and white composition shows graphic design potential. "I didn't think that I was great at art, so I was worried, until Laurie came and taught us pen and ink. It was kind of messy but fun. It's made me appreciate art more, and now I realize how much work is involved."

Michael Nelson said "it was really fun and interesting to learn new kinds of arts and the equipment you need. I liked the trips to Wanakita to do the sketches. My work is called 'Lake of Reflections' and it's of a lake near Dorset. It's made me appreciate art more, and all the hard work that goes into it. My favourite part is seeing how it all came together in the gallery."

Karen Bigelow, a visitor to the gallery and an emerging artist in her own right, drove from Toronto to the opening. "The Cultural Centre is bookmarked on my computer and that's how I found out about the show. It's such a great way for these young people to express themselves. This is our future, and the teachers should be commended," she said.

AJG curator Laurie Carmount was beaming as the gallery filled up with Grade 8 students, and admirers of their artistic efforts. "The Agnes Jamieson Gallery, the Rails End Gallery in Haliburton and the Arts Council are trying to do more arts education, and this is our first pilot contribution to the project. For me the main goal was trying to get ASES students and teachers more acquainted with our gallery and educating them about art. After-school programs are difficult due to the fact that many kids have to take the bus home, so we went to the school and they were very good about it. Principal Joan Harpell was very supportive and the kids were very interested to learn about how significant their own backyard is."

On the success of the Grade 8 art education program at A.S.E.S. Carmount said "it still needs some tweaking, but we'd like to be able to offer a course to any school in Ontario because it addresses the Grade 8 arts curriculum requirement." That's quite a lofty goal, but judging by the success of 'My Backyard', it's a goal that just might be attainable.

The must-see exhibition 'My Backyard' runs through January 31st at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery, 176 Bobcaygeon Road in Minden. ■

Prior to commencing such a project, research and ground-work had to be done, and Stella Voisin was the woman to do it. In coordinating the project she followed up on research by Dr. John Wadland who recently gave a talk in Minden about the history of art and artists in the Highlands. "We'd like students to be more aware of where they live, and to show the significance of the Highlands on some very well known Canadian artists. We put together research packages for the student on eleven artists, among them, Jack Bush, Ethel Curry, Joachim Gauthier, André Lapine, David Milne, and Owen Staples," said Voisin. "We wanted to show the students how Canadian landscapes differ from the more traditional European landscapes, and how lucky they are to have such landscapes virtually in their own back yards."

"We were also looking for links that the kids could identify with, such as sketches by Andre Lapine that show downtown Minden, and areas around South Lake. There are also connections to the artists directly. Highlands resident Lee Gauthier's father for instance, was the artist Jaochin Gauthier, who was a great friend of Group of Seven artist A.J. Casson, who also painted landscapes in the Highlands. There are numerous relatives of Ethel Curry living in

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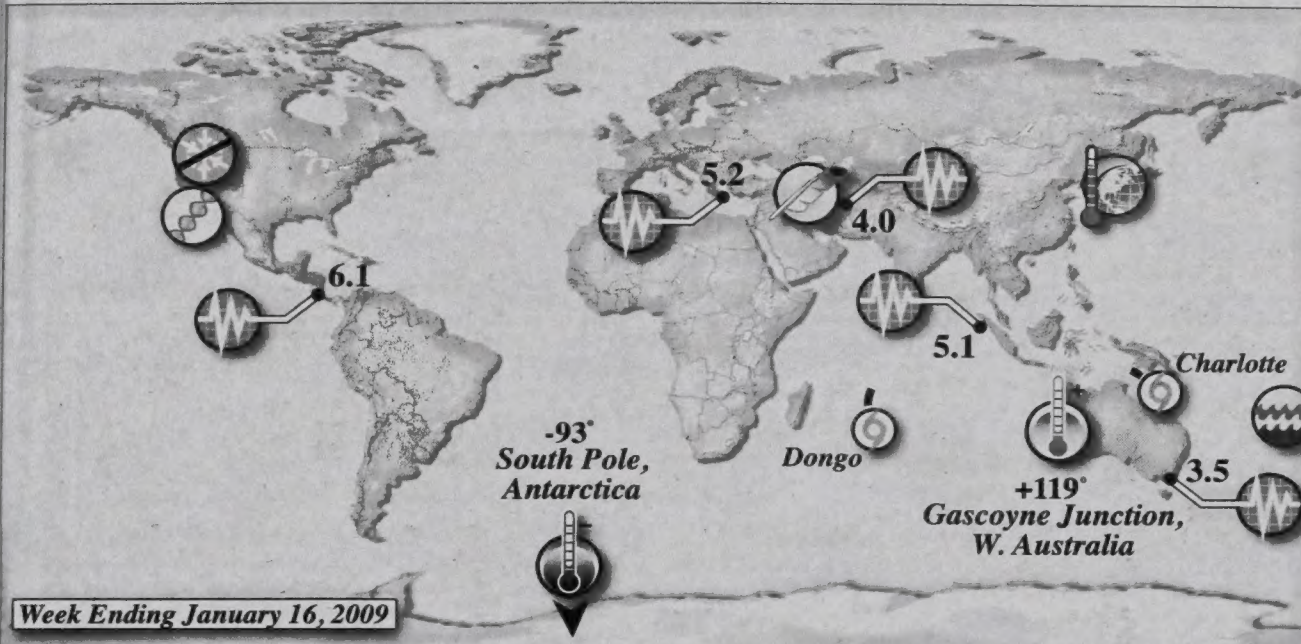


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Earthweek: A Diary of the Planet

By Steve Newmar



Chemical Evolution

Researchers have created what they say is a self-replicating chemical process that may point to how life first evolved on our planet. Gerald Joyce and colleagues at the Scripps Research Institute have shown that a group of synthetic RNA enzymes reproduced themselves much like living organisms, but without life or cells. "So long as you provide the building blocks and the starter seed, it goes forever," wrote Joyce in the journal *Science*. One theory of how life originated says that it began using RNA to store information, like DNA does now. The new chemical reproduction may shed light on one step in how early living systems emerged on a lifeless world. The researchers say their hacked enzymes have a 30-bit capacity to carry information for replication, and have shown the ability to evolve by a process similar to natural selection. Once added to a soup of building blocks, strings of the nucleic bases "went critical" and produced more RNA enzymes than Joyce and his team put in. While most bred true at first, some mutated and eventually became the dominant forms of replication, driving the original RNA into extinction.

Ocean Filters Choked

South Korean researchers warn of a sudden collapse in the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) being absorbed by the Sea of Japan. Kitack Lee, an associate professor at Pohang University, said he found warmer waters due to climate change have disrupted a process known as "ventilation" in which flowing and churning seas drag absorbed CO₂ from surface waters to the deep. He found the amount of CO₂ absorbed between 1999 and 2007 was half the level observed from 1992 to 1999.

Dirty Snow Melts Earlier

Soot from industrial and automotive sources that falls on the snow-covered mountains of the western U.S. and Canada is causing the snowpacks to melt as much as a month earlier in spring, according to a new study. The trend may create additional challenges for hydroelectric generation, fisheries and irrigation, which are also grappling with greenhouse gas-caused climate change. Researchers at the U.S. Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory found that soot absorbs sunlight somewhat like an asphalt surface, warming the snow and air just above it by up to 1.2 degrees Fahrenheit, melting the snow. Report co-author William Gustafson said that the Cascades have lost 60 percent of their snowpack since the 1950s.

Fiji Floods

Days of torrential rainstorms in Fiji left at least 11 people dead and unleashed flooding that destroyed homes, farms and businesses. Many international tourists at the popular vacation destination were trapped in their resorts, waiting for the storms to abate. About 9,000 Fijians have been forced from their homes by the flooding, which has caused about \$20 million in damage to roads and other infrastructure.

Tropical Cyclones

Highways were submerged and entire towns were isolated from the "double whammy" of Tropical Cyclone Charlotte and high astronomical tides that swamped far northern Australia. Officials said damage from the storm and high tides is expected to rise into the tens of millions of dollars.

• Tropical Storm Dongo briefly threatened shipping lanes in the central Indian Ocean.

Earthquakes

Rescue workers in Costa Rica rushed to find survivors of a powerful earthquake that killed as many as 38 people on the afternoon of Thursday, January 8. Most of the victims of the country's worst quake in 151 years died as a result of mudslide unleashed by the 6.1 magnitude shaking.

• Earth movements were also felt in Australia's Victoria state, western Sumatra, northeast Iran and on Crete and other southern Greek islands.

Smog Refugees

Tehran's crows have become the latest winged residents to flee the Iranian capital due to high levels of choking smog. *The Guardian* reports that Iranian environmentalists say crows had seemed to be resistant to high levels of carbon monoxide and other gases that regularly hang over the city for days especially in winter. But the birds abandoned their urban homes for the fresher countryside three weeks after the oppressive air pollution drove off pigeons, nightingales and other species. Iranian biodiversity expert Jamshid Mansouri told the newspaper the pollution refugees will be forced to seek new habitats in rural environments, where they may face unfamiliar predators and possible extinction. Crows have long been an Iranian symbol of bad news and gossip. Their departure accompanies changes in Tehran's plants, which some say have lost their aroma and color due to the smog.

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Have Your Say...
VOX POP

In Haliburton, we asked people, "Did you tune in to watch the inauguration of the 44th President of the United States, Barack Obama, on Tuesday? How significant of an event do you feel this was and what other historic event in history stands out in your mind?"



Heather Peddie, Haliburton – "I didn't see it, but I feel like I'm not missing a thing. I think that they're wasting taxpayer's money with putting on such a big event. It's absolutely ridiculous. But I do believe that having a person of color in office has been long overdue. What I'll never forget is the day that Elvis died."



Lisa Rose, Minden – "I wasn't able to watch it. It's obviously a significant event because this is the first black president for the U.S. But I think that not only does he represent change in government, he represents change on a lot of different levels. I remember the major power outage of 2003 that happened in the U.S. and Canada."



Pauline Plooard, Minden area – "I didn't watch it all, but got to see some of it at the Sir Sanford Fleming campus in Haliburton after doing some cross-country skiing. They were playing it there in the Great Hall. I think that this was an extremely significant event. It made America look good. The John Kennedy assassination and the 911 attacks are two things that stand out in my mind."



Tony MacBurie, Haliburton – "No, I didn't get a chance to. It's significant for the U.S. because this is the first time in history that a black president has been elected. I'm just hoping that he can live up to people's expectations. The assassination of Kennedy was an event that stands out for me."

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Paul Szpik - 457-2128

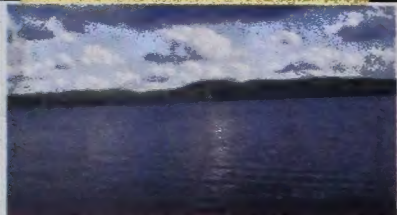
In Town Location \$209,900



Cute 3 BR home with hardwood floors & Main Floor laundry. Beautiful landscaped corner lot. Walk to downtown Haliburton!

Mark Dennys 457-2128

Opportunity Knocks \$34,900



Put your dock in - if you enjoy fishing & swimming this property offers direct access to beautiful Miskwabi Lake. Some zoning restrictions.

Deborah Deremo & Andrea Wilson 457-2128

5 Lake Chain \$569,000



Fully winterized, 3 bedrooms, open concept, woodstove, 2 storey garage on beautiful Soyers Lake!

Erin Nicholls 457-2128

Country Charm \$399,000



Lindal cedar 3 BR, 3 bath home. Wooded setting, excellent location, turn key. Vaulted ceilings, skylights, open concept, Jennair appl, dbl garage & more.

John Hincks 286-2138

Home on 1 Acre \$127,900



Cute 2 bedroom home near Carnarvon with many recent upgrades. Close to snowmobile trail and public access to Kushog Lake.

Kristin Withey 286-2138

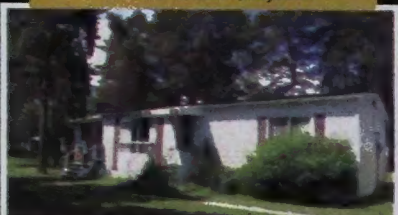
Beech River \$359,000



3 BR Waterfront home, private setting with that "cottage" feel. Sandy shoreline, deep water off dock with excellent access to Beech & Boshkung Lakes.

Anne Moulton 286-2128

Hunter Creek \$83,900



Well cared for home. Many upgrades. Adult only community 2 min from Minden. Small maint fee covers snow removal, garbage p/u, and more.

Dagmar Boettcher - 286-2138

Private Eagle Lk Lot \$134,500



More than 3.5 acres, 414 ft of road frontage, over 200 ft of great clean shoreline. Boat on the 2 lake chain. Enjoy Sir Sam's in the winter!

Wilf VanLieshout - 457-2128

Charming 3 Bedroom \$139,000



Cozy home with 1 1/2 bath is set on a very private 9.81 acre lot, a portion is fenced to house animals, 30x30 insulated, heated shop is drywalled, also features a bunkie.

Greg Stamp 457-2128

Minden Lake \$364,900



3 BR home/cottage with 167' of waterfront on picturesque Minden Lake. Quiet neighbourhood, great swimming, fishing & near White Water Reserve.

Paul Szpik - 457-2128

5 Lake Chain \$399,000



Nicely updated 3 BR cottage on Kashag. Sand & rock shoreline, SW exp. Open concept, stone FP & new kit. Winterized & accessible by yr.m.d. rd.

Susanne James & Andy Mosher 457-2128

Wonderful Privacy \$299,900



Great 3 BR cottage with pine floors throughout, cathedral ceiling, woodstove on a beautiful well treed private property. West exp. on a quiet no motor lake.

Mark Dennys 457-2128

Little Boshkung \$310,000



"Privacy+++ fabulous sunset view, sleeps 8 and is the sweetest cottage in Haliburton with 300 feet of shoreline"

Lee Gauthier 489-9968

Eagle Lake - \$359,000



Enjoy the sweeping views from this fabulous 3 BR, 2 bath cottage. Open concept, vaulted ceilings, multiple walkouts, minutes to Sir Sams.

Drew Bishop - 457-2128

Large home, Galert \$249,900



Located on over 21 acres with pond, this 3 bdrm home is ideal for the large family and is suited to a home based business.

Tom Wilkinson 286-2138

3 Large Acreages!



Magnificent views of Haliburton Lake! Driveways are already installed. 54 Acres - \$109,900; 60 Acres - \$89,900; 124 acres - \$114,900 or take all 3 !!!

Andrew Hodgson 286-2138

Minden Bungalow \$249,900



Newly renovated brick bungalow with newer kitchen, ensuite bath and two garages off circular driveway. Immaculately kept!

Janice Brookes 457-2128

Level Riverfront Lot \$119,000



Minden's Gull River on Hunter Creek Rd. 200' of shoreline. Driveway in hydro & phone at lot line. Great boat ride downriver to Gull Lake.

Tom Ecclestone 286-2138

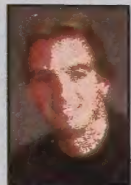
Attention Sledders \$179,900



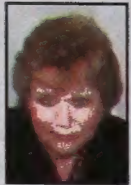
Wonderful year round cottage/home with all the amenities, close to trails, shopping and lake access nearby!

Derrell and Kim Stamp 457-2128

* Sales Representative ** Broker *** Broker of Record



Drew Bishop ** 457-2128



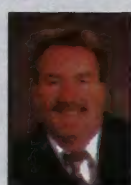
Janice Brookes * 457-2128



Dagmar Boettcher * 286-2138



Deborah Deremo** & Andrea Wilson* 457-2128



Mark Dennys * 457-2128



Tom Ecclestone * 286-2138



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Kristin Withey * 286-2138

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